

We Thank You Lord

by

Tom Heston

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♩ = 96 C Dm7 G Dm11 Am7 Em7

Ba - by Je - sus born on this day that Peace filled the u - ni - verse
Bless - ed Ma - ry Mo - ther of all we sing prais - es for ____ you

Dm9 F sus2 C F sus2 C F sus2 C

for ____ ev - ery one. ____
in ____ our songs. We thank You Lord for the love ____ in our hearts. Hol - y
Bless this

14 Dm7 G Dm11 Am7 Em7 Dm9 F sus2

Spir - it we are fill - ed with joy for all of the love You bring in - to our lives. We
day ____ our ____ Lord was born and pray for e - tern - al peace for ev - ery one. We

21

C F sus2 C F sus2 C F sus2 C F sus2

thank You Lord for the love in our hearts for -

29

C F sus2 C F sus2 C F sus2 C F sus2 C

ev - er for ev - er.

Being thankful for the gifts we receive throughout our lives helps us give more to others. When I've faced someone with an unknown diagnosis, I have frequently focused excessively on my challenges (not knowing) instead of my gifts (a solid knowledge of medical principles). When excessive, this focus creates burnout, high stress, and negativity. By taking time to be thankful for the gifts we've been given, we can overcome these obstacles. Being thankful helps us maximize our ability to help others.

One late night at a small Oregon hospital, a patient came to the ER who clearly had only a few hours left to live. He knew, I knew, everyone knew. He did not want heroic measures taken, he just wanted to be with someone during his final hours. Yet he lived alone, estranged from family and friends. It seemed remarkably sad. So we admitted him for comfort care, and I listened to him recap some of his life story. He was calm and at peace. After a short time, he passed with me at the bedside holding his hand. I witnessed how his spirit remained strong to the very end. He didn't fear death but rather seemed to have a positive expectancy that he would soon be in a better place.

Decades later, he continues to give me and others this gift of peace and strength of spirit. Now, whenever I am with a patient near irreversible death, I remember that I am not helpless, that I can still give them something of value. I remember my remarkable patient from Oregon, and give everything I've got to ensure that the patient now in front of me has a spirit that stays strong to the very end.

