

## Behind the Hymn: I Thank the Lord for You

*"I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now." (Philippians 1:3-5, NIV).*

Many of God's most precious gifts to use are the individuals He has sent into our lives:

- spouses
- mothers
- fathers
- children
- pastoral staff
- co-workers
- teachers
- Christian friends

The fellowship, the fun, the unconditional acceptance, the sense of belonging, the encouragement, the living example—all these blessings enrich us every day of our lives through the wonderful persons that surround us.

Treasure them. Thank God for them. Express your appreciation to them. Love them in daily, practical ways.

"I Thank the Lord for You" was originally written for the devotional book, *His Personal Presence*, to head the chapter, "Responding to His Presence in Relationships". Published there in three stanzas of eight lines each, I later condensed into four stanzas of four lines each.

The hymn is particularly suitable for Mother's Day, Father's Day, Valentine's Day, pastoral appreciation, teacher appreciation, or any occasion where relationships are the focus.

--Ken Bible

Hymn: [I Thank the Lord for You](#)