

How does a person show *shukr* (thankfulness)?

With regards to *shukr* and how a person manifests it to Allaah, the Shaykh Muhammad ibn Saalih al 'Uthaymeen *rahimahullaah* comments on hadeeth number 10 of an Nawawee's 40:

It is obligatory to make *shukr* for the blessing given by Allaah, the Mighty and Majestic, by performing righteous deeds – as per His saying, He the Most High:

Eat from the foods which are *tayyib* and work righteous deeds...

Soorah al Mu-minoon (23) aayah 51

And with regards to the believers, He said:

Eat from the foods which are *tayyib* which We have provided you with and make *shukr* to Allaah.

Soorah al Baqarah (2) aayah 172

And a ramification of combining these two aayahs is that *shukr* is righteous deeds – as per the statement of the Prophet *sall Allaahu 'alaihi wa sallam*

Indeed Allaah commanded the believers with that with which He commanded the messengers.¹

And that with which He commanded the Messengers is two matters:

The first: eating from the foods which are *tayyib*

The second: Righteous deeds.

So it is not the case that everyone who says “*The shukr is for Allaah!*” and “*Alhamdulillah!*” is a person of *shukr* - up and until he performs righteous actions.

¹ Reported by Muslim in the Book of Zakaat

And therefore, some of the *fuqahaa*- said:
Shukr is obedience to one who bestowed the Favour.
Meaning: establishing obedience to him.

And this is the meaning of His saying:
...and work righteous deeds.

Soorah al Mu-minoon (23) aayah 51

*(Sharh of an Nawawee's Forty of Shaykh Muhammad ibn Saalih al 'Uthaymeen rahimahullaah ,
p148)*