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May 15 & 16, 2021

THANKS

"God's will is for you to be holy, so stay away from all sexual sin."
1 Thessalonians 4:3

"It is God's will that your honorable lives should silence those ignorant people who make foolish accusations against you."
1 Peter 2:15

Memory Verse

"Give thanks in all circumstances;
for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."
1 Thessalonians 5:18

The Big Idea

Thankfulness Is By _____, Not By _____

Why Should I Be Thankful?

Thankfulness Makes Me _____

"Do everything without complaining and arguing, so that no one can criticize you. Live clean, innocent lives as children of God, shining like bright lights in a world full of crooked and perverse people."
Philippians 2:14-15

Adversity Can Make Me _____

"Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing."
James 1:2-4

How Can I Become More Thankful?

Eliminate _____ & _____ Thinking

"This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it."
Psalm 118:24

"Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom."
Psalm 90:12

Be The One Who _____

"One of them, when he saw that he was healed, came back to Jesus, shouting, 'Praise God!' He fell to the ground at Jesus' feet, thanking him for what he had done... Jesus asked, 'Didn't I heal ten men? Where are the other nine? Has no one returned to give glory to God except this foreigner?'"
Luke 17:15-18

MY NEXT STEP TODAY IS TO . . .

- ☐ Memorize 1 Thessalonians 5:18
- ☐ Request Information About The "Three Blessings Exercise"
- ☐ Request information about CarePortal
- ☐ Request information about Backpack Blessing (July 11th)
- ☐ Trust in Jesus for the very first time





Discussion Questions - Week #4

QUICK REVIEW

Thinking back to the sermon this weekend, "Thanks," summarize the main point in a sentence or two.

Was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

Is there any practical step you plan on taking this week in response to the message?

GETTING STARTED

- Name two or three things you're currently grateful for and why you are grateful for each?
- How would your friends or family categorize you—as a thankful person or someone who complains a lot? Would you agree with their assessment? Why or why not?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. Read Luke 17:11-19. Why do you think only one of the ten healed from leprosy returned to give thanks?

Why is it significant that the one who returned was a Samaritan?

Do you think Jesus was legitimately surprised that only one returned? Why or why not?

What does it look like when you acknowledge God and give thanks for what he's done?

What stands in the way of you expressing your thanks more often, either to God or others?

Do you think thankfulness is a habit or attitude that you need to work on, or do you have it nailed?

2. Read Philippians 4:4-7 & 10-13. What stands out to you most in these passages?

What reason did Paul give for rejoicing greatly?

How did Paul experience contentment regardless of the circumstances?

How does Paul's view of contentment differ from the modern world's definition?

What area in your life do you need to experience greater contentment?

What is one step you can take this week to grow in contentment with the things God's given?

TAKING IT HOME

☞ This week, take time to express your gratitude to someone. It may be as simple as a phone call or email, or as elaborate as taking someone to lunch or giving a gift. Any gesture that expresses sincere gratitude is a great place to start!

PRAYER REQUESTS