



Thanks+Giving: Gratitude

November 11 - November 18

This sermon study is designed to be used the week after the sermon it supplements. Use the left side of this sheet to prepare for your group time. Use the right side to facilitate your group discussion. The purpose of this guide is to help your group, collectively and individually, and grow closer to Jesus.

INTENTIONAL LEADERSHIP

- **Pray** that each member of your group would be moved to a state of gratitude and generosity during this Thanksgiving season.
- **Evaluate** where your group members are on their spiritual journey. **Identify the next step of growth** that you can help them take.
- Choose a part of your life group time this week (perhaps a prayer) that you can **hand-off** to a person you see leading a group one day. Text them before your group meets to let them know you'll be asking for their help!

RELATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

- Make it a point to text or call every person in your group this week to check-in and let them know you are praying for them.
- **Weekly Leader Tip:** Don't interrupt anyone speaking in your group this week, and kindly stop others from doing so as well.
- Start your time with an icebreaker such as Peaks & Pits or 2 Truths and a Lie.

PLANNED SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCE

During this Thanksgiving season, plan a time with your group to come together and celebrate where God has brought about blessing and growth in your lives in 2017. Sharing a meal together might be a great way to do this.

SERIES RECAP

During this series we are looking at what it means to be truly thankful and how that affects the way we live. God's desire for His people is for them to live with joy and gratitude. When we realize our life is a gift from God, our response must be to open up our hands and share our gifts through radical generosity.

SERMON SUMMARY

No matter their circumstances, there is always reason for a Christian to be grateful. God asks us to be intentional about gratitude, to stop and be mindful of our gifts, and to thank God for them! One important way we express our thanks to God is to be generous to others. It is one of our most beautiful ways of worshipping Him for His goodness to us; to share it with others!

BIBLICAL FOUNDATION

Have someone in your group read 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 and Ephesians 1:15-16.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Is there someone you know that exudes gratitude?
2. What did you learn about God's will for His people in the verses you read?
3. Where do you see joy and generosity displayed the most in our world? Where do you see them least displayed?
4. What would it take for you to truly live your life with an attitude of gratitude?
5. What would happen in our world if Christians were to have more joy and generous spirits?
6. How do you think God is asking you to respond to the message this week?