



1 Thessalonians 5:18-28

Getting Started

What do you most consistently find yourself thanking God for? Why are you so thankful for those things?

Discussion

What stood out to you from the sermon this weekend?

Why is it God's will for you and me to be thankful? What does it look like to give thanks when circumstances are difficult?

What does it mean to "quench the Spirit?" Why should we hunger for the gifts of the Holy Spirit? Have you ever experienced receiving or giving a word of prophecy? Share.

Why are we to "test" words of prophecy? What does that look like?

What is our role in the process of sanctification (becoming more like Jesus)? Can you think of (or look up) any verses that support your answer?

What comes to mind when you read v. 24? Do you think that, no matter how you live or engage with God, that you will be sanctified in your character? Or do you have a role to play?

Prayer

Read 1 Corinthians 14:1-3. The Apostle Paul encouraged all Christian believers to have the desire to prophesy. He went on to state the broad parameters of '**strengthening, encouragement and comfort**'. A small group setting is a great place to facilitate this. As Christians, we can hear God speak to us in prayer. In a group context, we can hear from God for others and ourselves.

Take 3-5 minutes of silence to listen to God as a group. Ask him to bring to mind any words of "strengthening, encouragement and comfort" for others in the group. This may come in the form of a picture, a phrase, a Scripture, or a sense/feeling. Share anything you sensed, heard, saw with the group and pray over anyone who felt like any of the words shared were God speaking to them.

As you go

Ask God for insight into how you might participate with more intentionality in the process of him sanctifying you. Talk to a mentor/friend/spouse about steps He's asking you to take.

