Group Discussion Guide
Week of October 22, 2023

Giving Thanks Always – Ephesians 5:20

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

- Do you think thankfulness is an involuntary reaction to the things that happen to us, or is thankfulness a conscious choice we make?

MAIN POINT

Focusing on God and His love for us makes it possible to give thanks always.

REVIEW

Looking over your notes from this past teaching... was there anything you heard for the first time, caught your attention, challenged you, or confused you?

DIGGING INTO THE WORD

- What are some things that prohibit our ability to be thankful?
- Do you think those things really have a power over us, to make us unthankful, or do you think we allow those things to make us unthankful?

<u>Read</u> – Ephesians 5:20

- Have you ever been thankful for something that was difficult or unpleasant? What was it? How were you able to be thankful for that?

<u>Read</u> – James 3:14-17

- How do the sins of envy and covetousness effect our ability to be thankful?
- How can choosing to be thankful help us avoid envy and covetousness?

   "The Devil moves in when a Christian starts to complain, but thanksgiving in the Spirit defeats the Devil and glorifies the Lord." ~ Warren Wiersbe

- What practical steps can we take to keep ourselves in the place of "thanksgiving in the Spirit"?

- How can thankfulness be an act of worship to God?

- How can having wealth cause us to become unthankful?

Read – Deuteronomy 12:11-19

- What do these verses tell us is the result of forgetting the good things God has done for us that we should be thankful for?

- How does continually applying the truth of the Gospel to our lives keep us in a place of consistent thankfulness?

Read – Philippians 4:11

- What do you think Paul means by saying he "learned" to be content?

- How can we "learn" contentment in our lives?

PRAISE REPORTS & PRAYER REQUESTS

- Ask for any prayer requests that anyone may have.

Remember to create a prayer request journal where you will write down the prayer requests and the corresponding praise reports