

ThanksLiving  
Week 2

**Selfish ambition takes your attention off of God's direction.**

Thankfulness is the overflow of a humble heart, just as an unthankful heart flows out of a selfish heart.

- **How do we fight against our selfishness to develop a thankful life?**

Philippians 2:3-8 Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

- **Humility is how we defeat the sin of selfishness.**

How do we become humble:

**1. Learn to love God's word**

Psalm 119:36 Lord, teach me how your orders direct me to live. Then I will live that way to the very end. <sup>34</sup> Help me understand your law so that I may follow it. I will obey it with all my heart. <sup>35</sup> Teach me to live as you command, because that makes me very happy. <sup>36</sup> Make me want to follow your covenant laws instead of wanting to gain things only for myself.

**2. Confess your sin to God**

James 4:6-8 And he gives grace generously. As the Scriptures say, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." <sup>7</sup> So humble yourselves before God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. <sup>8</sup> Come close to God, and God will come close to you. Wash your hands, you sinners purify your hearts, for your loyalty is divided between God and the world.

**3. Be quick to forgive**

Ephesians 4:31-32 Put out of your life all these things: bad feelings about other people, anger, temper, loud talk, bad talk which hurts other people, and bad feelings which hurt other people. <sup>32</sup> You must be kind to each other. Think of the other person. Forgive other people just as God forgave you because of Christ's death on the cross.

#### **4. Choose to serve others**

**Galatians 5:13** You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh<sup>[a]</sup>; rather, serve one another humbly in love.