Group Questions – Expressing Thankfulness

11/22/26 – Pastor Kirby

Getting to Know Me Questions:

- What is your favorite Thanksgiving/Holiday food?
- What was something you are or were waiting for that's exciting to you?

Into the Bible Questions:

- What's something from this week's teaching that you learned, stood out, was interesting?
- We looked at 3 stories of thankfulness
    - Anna - Luke 2:36-39
    - Samaritan Leper - Luke 17:12-19
    - Jesus - Matthew 20:13-21
- After reading each story, talk about what sticks out to you in it. Talk about how each person expressed thanks to God and what made it difficult or easy.
- **NOW:** get a note pad/paper and something to write with.
- For each one, pattern a response of thanks based how you imagine their experience to be. Take some time to write down how they will express thanks to God based on each of them. Go through the stories together one by one.
- To help you get going here are some examples:
- Based on **ANNA**: It may include taking a closer look at what you are praying for and being more specific; keep a journal of praise to God for prayers answered and those still in waiting; tell friends and family when God sends a blessing, etc.
- Based on the **SAMARITAN LEPER**: It may include being specific in thanking God for something – Name it – Instead of just generally saying thanks; thanking God even though you may feel left out; showing thanks to God by looking around your job, family, city for people who are "the least of these" and ask God to show you ways to serve them; etc.
- Based on **JESUS**: It may include taking more time to offer thanks to God each day; being thankful even when what you have seems small and insignificant; looking for ways to give glory to God through an attitude of thanksgiving; regularly giving when there's a need

Application Questions:

- Use the ideas you wrote down as an action challenge for this week. Look for ways to take your ideas and offer genuine thanks to God through both prayer and action.
- Take your notes home and place them somewhere you can see them and make them a Thanksgiving goal.
- Close with a prayer of thanksgiving to God. Maybe each person would like to name that thing specifically.

Bonus:

- Search: “Thanksgiving song Ben Rector” on your music app or YouTube. Enjoy as a group, or on your own. Why should Christmas get all the good songs?