

Sermon Discussion Guide

Drawing Near: Gratitude

Philippians 4:4-7

Gratitude

*Being thankful to God through remembering and rejoicing in
who He is and what He has done*

1.) In this passage, Paul tells us not to be anxious about anything. Anxious also means feeling worried, troubled, scared, fearful, nervous, restless, and eager.

- Do you feel anxious about anything in your life right now? What do you feel anxious about?

2.) Often times, when we feel anxious, we start to grumble and complain about things. Sometimes we complain to ourselves and other times we complain to other people.

- Have you been grumbling or complaining about anything lately (either to yourself or others)?

3.) Every moment of feeling anxious is an invitation to experience a deeper relationship with God. In verse 6, Paul tells us what to do when we feel anxious. Instead of staying anxious or grumbling about things, we need to pray about those things with a heart of gratitude and thanksgiving.

- What do you need to pray about? What do you need others to pray about for you? Spend some time praying to God about these things.
- What and who are you thankful for in your life right now? Write these down. Share these things with others. Spend some time praying to God and thank Him for these things.

4.) The key sentence that influences everything else in this passage is "The Lord is at hand." In the sermon, this sentence was described to mean these two things:

- Jesus is coming back again
- The Lord is always with us and He is always working in our lives.

How do these truths bring you comfort and peace in your life right now? Spend some time thanking the Lord for always being with you and always working in your life, even when you don't feel it.

5.) What can you change in your life to help you experience and express more gratitude and thankfulness to God?

Additional Verses/Resources

Matthew 6:25-34; Luke 10:38-42; Philippians 2:14-16; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18; Colossians 3:15

"4 Reasons We Can Be Thankful in Times of Trouble" by Joe Carter, The Gospel Coalition