



Thanks Be To God

Scott Merriner – November 28, 2022

Small Group Discussion Questions

Getting Started

Take some time to catch up and connect as a group. Pray before discussion. Expect God to move through your time together!

Pacing Your Group

Move quickly through “observation” leaving enough time for “reflection”, “discussion”, and “surrender.”

Scripture Reading

Re-read the scripture passages as needed when you discuss the questions.

Observation: *What does this scripture passage say?*

Take some time to look up and read: James 1:16-17

1. Why would James give a warning about “deception” before acknowledging God as the source of good and perfect gifts? What trouble may result from misplaced thankfulness?

Reflection and Discussion: *What are some first thoughts flowing from the scriptures?*

How do the scriptures connect to everyday life

2. Take some time to consider these reasons to be thankful to God:
 - **Thankfulness puts us in God’s will** (1 Thessalonians 5:18)
How and why is it possible for a follower of Christ to be thankful in all circumstances?
 - **Thankfulness reminds us of God’s goodness and love** (1 Chronicles 16:34)
What troubles or struggles have made thankfulness difficult for you in this season?
 - **Thankfulness brings God’s peace** (Philippians 4:6)
When has God enabled you to exchange your anxiety for His peace? Tell a story about experiencing God’s peace that transcends all understanding.
 - **Thankfulness glorifies God** (2 Corinthians 4:15)
How does our joy and gratitude give God glory?
3. Take some time to consider some specific things we can thank God for:
 - **Thanking God for His grace** (Ephesians 2:1-8, 2 Corinthians 9:15)
Come up with a list of God’s gifts, freely given to His people. Can you quickly and easily come up with 20 or more?
 - **Thanking God for His truth** (John 14:16-19, Ephesians 1:3-4)
What books, chapters, or verses of the Bible do you hold closest to your heart because God has made this passage/verse undeniably true and real for you in your life?
 - **Thanking God for His provision** (Philippians 4:19)
Share a story of God’s recent provision in your life. Where is God providing?

Surrender: *Responding to God’s voice.*

4. What is one thing God is saying to you through this study and discussion?
**** Take some time to pray for one another in response to what has been discussed today ****

We’re here!

We would love to hear about how things are going in your life group!
Reach out any time with questions, ideas, thoughts, or concerns.

Contact Care & Community Pastor, Michael Warren, (907) 646-4830, communitylife@changepointalaska.com
A primary resource in compiling these questions has been the *NIV Life Application Study Bible* (Zondervan, 1984)