

Giving with Gratitude

Philippians 4:10-20

November 20, 2022

Next Steps

OPENING PRAYER:

O God, your Word is more precious than fine gold, and sweeter than the purest honey. As we turn to your Scripture, send your Holy Spirit to infuse your Word with truth and grace -- so that the good news of your love would shine before our eyes and delight our senses ... so that we cannot help but respond with wonder, faith and trust. Amen.

BREAKING THE ICE:

- Where did you see God this week?
- What one thing in your life could you do that you 'lose time.'? (Those events, or projects or hobbies that you just get lost in the project and forget to check the time.)

DIGGING DEEPER:

Read Philippians 4:10-20.

- What jumps out at you in this scripture?
- How does Paul define contentment? How would you define contentment in your life?
- How will Paul's definition of giving influence your life? What would it mean for you to grow our giving? What is God's Word calling you to give?
- What need would you love God to fulfill?
- What does God need to change in you to be content?

Next Steps:

- Commit to the gratitude jar or social media post of gratitude for every day until thanksgiving.
- How will you step up in giving to God?
- Go back and read all of Philippians. What do you want to apply to your life?

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:

Merciful God, we are surrounded by temptations to judge based on appearance, to live only skin-deep, to pursue what is flashy rather than what is substantive and to pattern our lives after the shallow values of the world. How we need a renewed vision of Christ this Lenten season! Speak to us again about what life in you is about: serving those who can offer nothing in return, loving those who are different or friendless, forgiving and reconciling with our enemies, trusting you rather than ourselves. We acknowledge that we cannot do this on our own but only by your Spirit. Come, Lord Jesus, and transform our hearts that we might reflect you in all we are and in all we think and do. Amen.