

It's important that God's Word continues after the message. At Celebrate, we find that you will talk over this week's message long after our experience is over. That's because God has lasting impact. The Sermon Discussion Guide is designed to help you continue the conversation all week.

Thanksgiving

With all this talk about vaccinations in regard to our current global and community situation, what if we were to turn our focus toward vaccinating our hearts against ingratitude, envy, greed, and pride? Counting our blessings, having an attitude of gratitude, giving thanks no matter what is going on in our lives, good or bad, is what God is asking us to do.

Keys to Living a Lifestyle of Thanksgiving:

1. **Remember that we ALL have it so GOOD.** Taking things for granted is a daily occurrence.

Reasons Why We Forget

- **We lack perspective.** When was the last time you asked someone to give you their perspective on your situation? Did you consider their perspective? Did it help you to feel more grateful?
- **We forget to count our blessings.** How high would you get if you were to count your blessings? Have you remembered to be thankful for the little things? What do you have today that you thanked God for yesterday?

Key: Gratitude Always BEGINS in the HEART

- A person who is ungrateful tends to focus on the negative. A person with a grateful heart shares gratitude and positivity with others.
- What state do you feel your heart is in right now? If you are feeling ungrateful, ask your group to help you take steps to change.

2 Timothy 3:1-2; Hebrews 13:15; Proverbs 16:9; 1 Thessalonians 5:18

2. **Understand why we ALL express it so LITTLE:**

We focus on the wrong list: household chores, work tasks, honey-do lists. Focusing on our list of blessings reminds us to be grateful. What are your first thoughts when you get up in the morning? Which list are you centered on? Share an experience about when showing gratitude made you or someone else smile.

Ways you can express your gratitude:

- Tell someone you are thankful for them.
- Think about being thankful for the giver, rather than the gift.
- Give someone a hug, high-five, fist bump, or elbow bump.

What are some other ideas you have for showing thankfulness?

2 Kings 4:32-37; Luke 17:11-19; Psalm 107:8; Philippians 1:3-5; Psalm 107:31

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Make It Real

- If you haven't already, write out a list of your blessings.
- Next time you are feeling ungrateful, try re-evaluating your perspective.
- Give yourself to Jesus so that He has a chance to change you.