

SERMON: Living A Life of Gratitude.

November 19, 2017

SERIES: Stand Alone

SPEAKER: Pastor Mark

CONNECT (5-10 minutes): Help the members of the group grow in relationships with one another so all people in the group know they matter. Spend some time discovering what is happening in the lives of your group members. Share how God has been revealing himself in each other's lives.

REVIEW (15-20 minutes): Use this time to review the passage and the sermon outline (see below).

Note: this is a great opportunity to share leadership.

Use these simple questions to review the sermon/passage or for if you don't have much time:

1. What does this passage teach you about God? About us?
2. How does this passage point us to the gospel? How does it challenge you? Change you?

SCRIPTURE:

Luke 17:11-19. 11 On the way to Jerusalem he was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. 12 And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance 13 and lifted up their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." 14 When he saw them he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. 15 Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; 16 and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. 17 Then Jesus answered, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? 18 Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" 19 And he said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

SERMON OUTLINE:

I. The Compassionate Jesus.

- Jesus had compassion for the hurting and marginalized.

II. The Grateful Outsider.

- Only 1 of 10 Lepers returned to thank Jesus. Why? He knew he deserved nothing.

- Do you see yourself as an outsider? As undeserving?

III. The Greatest Gift.

- Gratitude alone cannot save us, we must have faith.

- Jesus became the outsider (worse than a leper) for us.

GROW (45-60 minutes): Use this time to go deeper with your group.

Use these questions to discuss the sermon/passage:

1. Can you identify the marginalized and powerless in your life, community, church? How do you treat them? What is your attitude toward them?
2. Read Romans 1:21. Humanity has always struggled with gratitude. Do you struggle with gratitude? Do you struggle to see yourself as an outsider that deserves nothing from God?
3. Pastor Mark encouraged us to “become an expert on how good God has been to you.” What is one specific way you can grow in this area?
4. “Gratitude and grief can co-exist.” Do you believe this? Read 1 Thessalonians 5:18. How can you give thanks IN the trial but not necessarily FOR the trial?
5. We must move beyond gratitude to faith. Why is this true for salvation? Does gratitude save us? Why is this also true for our growth in Christ? How can gratitude help to increase our faith?
6. This is Thanksgiving week! Spend some time practicing gratitude with your group or family today.