

THANKS GIVING

GIVING THANKS



#MC3THANKSGIVINGTHANKS



Discussion
Gu'de

“THANKS FOR ASKING”

11/17/19

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GIVE THANKS As We Pray

Because God Has Given Us Direct Access to Him

The Repeats (required)

They are the same, but *WE* change, so please discuss these with your group

- [Share the announcements (on FB thread) with your group]
- This is our final week of Pr'me for the fall cycle! Go around your group and share your God Moments: how have you seen God working, either in your life or in the life of another over the past week?
- Is there anything that you want to share that has stood out to you so far from the current Point series?

The Review (optional)

Use this section only if you want to review for those who were not in the Point

- Have someone explain the Point in their own words.*
- What object lesson or illustration was used to communicate the Point this week? How did this apply to the Point?*
- Have someone read or summarize the main Bible passage/story from the Point (see "The References" section).
- How did this Bible passage teach the Point?*

**someone who was in the Point may need to explain this*

The Reenergizer (optional)

Use this question if you need to get your group talking

- Would you rather have an *unlimited* giftcard that expires in 2 hrs, OR an *unlimited* giftcard for life, but you can only use \$1 at a time?

The Reflection (required)

Discuss these to go deeper, *and more personal*, into applying the Point

- What things do people tend to worry about? *Why* do we worry?
- **Read Philippians 4:6-7.** In v. 6a, what things *should* we worry about?
- Have you ever felt like there are things that are too big...or too small to pray about? Why did you feel that way? How does v. 6b respond?
- Explain why prayer is a *response* to worry. What does v. 7 add?
- Be honest: when you worry, what is your first response?
- Paul shares three “parts” of prayer in v. 6. Discuss each part:
 - “*Prayer*” Make a list of ways that we can worship when we pray.
 - “*Petition*” How does it feel to know that God is listening to you?
 - “*Thanksgiving*” Why is this included when asking for things???
- Share about a time that you were disappointed because God didn’t answer a prayer. Then think about that and discuss these reasons:
 - *You’re Seeking the Wrong Things* **Matthew 6:25-33**
 - What are the “wrong things”? Why is this a struggle for us?
 - *You’re Asking with the Wrong Motives* **James 4:1-3**
 - How does this perspective cause people to be angry *with God*?
 - *You’re Pursuing the Wrong Plan* **1 Jhn 5:14-15; Jhn 14:13-14**
 - Why does this promise “work”? How can this be a guarantee?
 - *You’re Expecting the Wrong Results* **2 Cor. 12:7-9; Php. 4:6-7**
 - How does this make you feel? Yet...why is this so powerful?
- Looking back, did God *actually* not answer, or did you just miss it?
- How has this week’s Point changed your perspective on prayer? What do you need to do differently?

The References

Main Passage: Philippians 4:6-7 (NIV)

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Matthew 6:25-33 (NLT) *selected verses, read full passage in Bible

...“So don’t worry about these things, saying, ‘What will we eat? What will we drink? What will we wear?’ These things dominate the thoughts of unbelievers, but your heavenly Father already knows all your needs. Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need.”

James 4:1-3 (NLT) *selected verses, read full passage in Bible

...Yet you don’t have what you want because you don’t ask God for it. And even when you ask, you don’t get it because your motives are all wrong—you want only what will give you pleasure.

1 John 5:14-15 (NIV)

This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him.

John 14:13-14 (NLT)

You can ask for anything in my name, and I will do it, so that the Son can bring glory to the Father. Yes, ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it!

2 Corinthians 12:7b-9 (NIV)

Therefore, in order to keep me from becoming conceited, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.”Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me.