

DISCUSSION GUIDE

WE ALWAYS THANK GOD
Stand-alone Sermon

ICEBREAKER: What's one of your nicknames? What do you prefer to be called?

OVERVIEW: Every November we make a special effort to be thankful. But thankfulness is not an annual event. It is a lifestyle; a fundamental Christian attitude. It is important to show gratitude to each other, but it is even more important to show gratitude to God. And for all of God's blessings, we can never be thankful enough. This week we are learning more about the virtue of thankfulness so that we can better honor and please the Lord.

1. **Read Colossians 1:3.** What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain. (Or what was your key takeaway from Sunday's message?)
2. How do you define thankfulness?
3. Thankfulness requires appreciation – "to understand the true nature of a situation, and realize why it is important or serious" (MacMillan). What do we need to appreciate (understand) in order to be thankful?
4. Read Psalm 109:30. David thanked God with his mouth. What are some ways that we can thank God with our words?

5. Thankfulness is not only verbal, but physical. What are some ways that we can show gratitude with our actions?
6. Read Colossians 3:17. This verse commands us to be thankful. Why is important that we be thankful?
7. Read Psalm 92:1. It is good to give thanks to the Lord. In other words, thankfulness benefits us. What are some ways that an attitude of thankfulness benefits us?
8. What are some ways that you can grow in thankfulness?
9. Read Luke 17:11-19. What can we learn about thankfulness from this story?

The Last Word: "The heart must be alive with a gracious gratitude, or the leaf cannot long be green with living holiness." C.H. Spurgeon