

GIVING THANKS

Romans 8.28-39

HOW GIVING THANKS IS A SACRIFICE

Psalm 50.14, 15 // Acts 17.25

- Sacrifice is hard, because you give out of what you don't have.
 - When we give thanks, it's because we have received something we previously didn't have.
- Sacrifice is given because you recognize you don't deserve what you have.
 - When we give thanks, it's because we know we don't deserve the blessing we have received.
- Sacrifice acknowledges that the other person is in control.
 - When we give thanks, we recognize that we are at the mercy of the other person and their goodwill toward us.
- Sacrifice puts the spotlight on someone else, not ourselves.
 - Giving thanks points us to the giver of the gift, not the receiver of the gift.

BEING THANKFUL FOR THE TRUTH OF THE GOSPEL

Thankfulness wars against, lust, greed, apathy, bitterness, laziness, lying, anger, selfishness, and every other idol in your heart. It throws water on the fires of all sinful desire.

Romans 8.28-39

**Sin is a worship issue. We worship our way into sin,
and we must then worship our way out of sin.**

1 Thessalonians 5.18

**If you can't do it with the joy that you should, do it as you can,
because doing it as you can makes you able to do it better.**

-Richard Baxter, 1600's Puritan Pastor

Psalm 116.12-19



NOTES:

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

6 MONTH ANNIVERSARY!

At our next **GPS Meeting** tomorrow, **Monday, July 15**, we will be celebrating our first 6 months since our launch on January 6th! Please join us for a **Bring Your Own Dinner** picnic at **McLeod Park** in Escondido at 6pm as we look back at the last 6 months, and have a time of giving thanks to the many people who make Life Mission Church what it is as we look forward to the coming season of life at LMC.

NEXT MEXICO MISSIONS TRIP

If you would like to join us on our next trip to our Gospel partners in Vista de Valle, Mexico, mark your calendar for **July 20 and 21**, and contact **Matt Piro** by emailing matt@lifemission.tv.

KIDS ON MISSION

Please log on to check out www.lifemissionchurch.com and click "Kids" at the top to read more about the vision and plan we have for our kids, including Pastor Jobey's heart and his walk through of our curriculum.

Also, the daily devotional book, **Long Story Short**, is available in the Atrium to purchase.

WANT TO GET CONNECTED?

• **JOIN A COMMUNITY GROUP!**

If you want to get connected to a group of people near your neighborhood, let us know by filling out the **Connection Card** or visiting the **Connection Booth** in the Atrium!

• **JOIN A MINISTRY TEAM!**

We would love to have you come serve our community with us. Let us know on our **Connection Card** that you want to help!



SAVE.

Jesus was sent to save. We have been saved to be sent. We are sent into our community to share the Good News that Christ came to save us, and we hope to see many who find new life.

EQUIP.

We want to equip those very people in the Word so that they can continue to grow as disciples of Christ. From our preschool to our adults, our passion is to see everyone equipped in the Gospel to live a life of freedom and joy.

SEND.

Lastly, we then want to see those equipped people sent into their community and world. From schools and playgrounds, to families and work places, we want to see people who are spiritual leaders in their life, showing people the truth of Christ's Good News.

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COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

What stuck out to you the most or was the most impactful from the message on Sunday? _____

In what situations is saying "thank you" to someone most difficult? _____

In what situations is saying "thank You" to God most difficult? _____

What makes it so hard to give thanks in those situations? _____

Chances are, you answered something like "pride" or "wrong perspective" or "self-entitlement." Read **Revelation 3.15-22**. What was the charge that Jesus had against this church? _____

How would you explain giving thanks as a sacrifice? _____

What particular sins or circumstances are dealing with right now that are difficult? _____

With these, what temptations to sin, disbelieve, or not trust in God are you facing? _____

Read **1 Thessalonians 5.18** and **Philippians 4.4-9**. How can you turn your heart toward giving thanks in this situation? And if you do so, how do you think that will help deal with your temptation and desire for sin? _____

Read the Richard Baxter quote in the sermon notes. Baxter was a 1600's pastor who spent time in prison for preaching the Gospel. No doubt it was difficult to give God thanks in a situation like that, but like Paul, who wrote the above verses in **Philippians** while in prison, he was able to do so. Considering that quote, to simply "start where you can," why do you think it's important to start even if your heart isn't totally in it, and what do you think can come from it in time? _____

Read **Romans 8.28-39**. What particular truths do you find most powerful that you can regularly give God thanks for to help you stay focused and away from sin? _____

Spend time in prayer as a group praying and giving thanks for some of these things you are battling. Practice, as a group, how to turn opportunities of temptation and sin into opportunities of worship and thanks. Help each other see what each other can be thankful in.