

Today's Message

Practicing Thanks

A Different Kind of Christmas

I Thessalonians 5:18

Sunday, November 29, 2009

Text Questions for Growth Groups

Practicing Thanks

A Different Kind of Christmas

1 Thessalonians 5:18

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1. Read First Thessalonians as a whole quickly. What are some of the things that Paul addresses and encourages these believers to?
2. What is shocking and audacious about 1 Thess. 5:18?
3. Does Paul say we are to give thanks FOR everything or IN everything? What's the difference? What does Ephesians 5:20 say and how does it add to this discussion?
4. Why are we told to give thanks to God? What is the biblical logic behind this command? Why does the Gospel make this crazy command possible?
5. Choose five of these other texts, look them up and share what they say in your own words:

Colossians 3:16-17, Colossians 4:2, Hebrews 12:13-15, Revelation 11:17, Philippians 4:16, 2 Corinthians 4:16, Psalm 30:4, 33:2, 44:8, 50:14, 75:1, 79:13, 92:1, 95:2, 100, 105:1, 106:1, 107, 118, 136, 147:7.

Life Questions for Growth Groups

Practicing Thanks

A Different Kind of Christmas

1 Thessalonians 5:18

Sunday, November 29, 2009

1. What was most interesting and/or challenging for you in this week's text/message? What were the emotions you felt as you heard and thought about God's Word this week?
2. What keeps us from thanksgiving? Why is it such a challenge to give thanks when we are experiencing trials?
3. Is it fake to give thanks if you don't feel thankful? Should we wait to give thanks until we feel it?
4. What physical blessings are you thankful for? What spiritual blessings are you thankful for?
5. How can a Growth Group help with our practice of and obedience to 1 Thessalonians 5:18? Spend some time giving thanks to the Lord for His spiritual and physical blessings.