

INVITATIONS

COME.

How Gratitude Shapes Our Faith

Psalm 111; 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15; Luke 17:11-19; 2 Timothy 2:8-15

GETTING STARTED

What are the things you feel you deserve as you journey through life? (Think about the various venues of your life: home, work, church, customer service, organizations you are connected to...)

READ AND REFLECT

Read Luke 17:11-19

What are your initial observations from this passage? What is the big idea?

What is unique (or significant) about the one healed man who came back to Jesus?

What is similar and what is different with the 2 Kings passage?

What does the 2 Timothy passage have to say about obedience, gratitude, and maturity in our faith?

Any other insights from these passages you would like to share?

ENGAGE AND DISCUSS

On a scale of 1-10 (1 being the lowest), how would you rate the level of gratitude in yourself and the people around you?

What is influencing your answer?

Do you think we live more with a sense of entitlement or gratitude each day?

What does it take for a person to be thankful and respond to God (and others) with gratitude?

How is a spirit of gratitude linked to spiritual growth? Can a person be a "mature Christian" and live a self-entitled life? Why or why not?

Why do you think the leper in Luke 17 came back to Jesus? Was it only to say thank you?

Respond to the quote by A.W. Tozer:

"O God, I have tasted Thy goodness, and it has both satisfied me and made me thirsty for more. I am painfully conscious of my need for further grace. I am ashamed of my lack of desire. O God, the Triune God, I want to want Thee; I long to be filled with longing; I thirst to be made more thirsty still. Show me Thy glory, I pray Thee, so that I may know Thee indeed. Begin in mercy a new work of love within me. Say to my soul, 'Rise up my love, my fair one, and come away.' Then give me grace to rise and follow Thee up from this misty lowland where I have wandered so long."

NEXT STEPS:

- Sight for the Pathway: Examine your own life and heart when it comes to entitlement and gratitude. Where are you in this journey?
- How could you take one step toward God or others in gratitude this week?