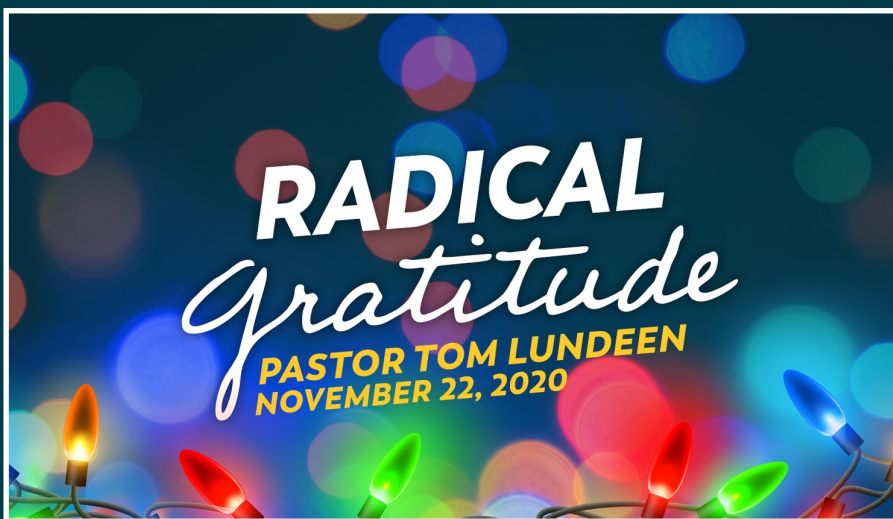




Your story matters.



MYRC.CHURCH



“**RADICAL** *gratitude*”

TOM LUNDEEN, SENIOR PASTOR

MESSAGE NOTES

Today and next Sunday our focus will be on a topic that is talked about throughout the Scriptures and is identified as a key aspect of a _____ Jesus follower...gratitude...thanksgiving (note [1 Chronicles 16:8](#); [Psalm 100:4](#); [109:30](#); [28:7](#); [Revelation 7:12](#)).

What's there to be thankful for in these final weeks of a very _____ year?

God actually tells us that gratitude...isn't reserved for one day a year, but is actually something that is always to be a part of our lives and _____ journey.

1. _____ Takes Us Somewhere (note [Romans 1:21](#))

An unthankful spirit takes us to wrong ideas about who God really is, and that road soon leads to hearts _____ in confusion and straying away from what God has told us and _____ us is good and right.

To be grateful or to show ingratitude is something _____ takes notice of (note [Luke 17:11-19](#)).

_____ is gratitude...or ingratitude, taking you this Thanksgiving week?

Radical gratitude looks like:

2. Being Thankful _____ (note [1 Thessalonians 5:18](#))

...gratitude for Jesus followers isn't to be based on our _____; and that it's God's _____ for us to be thankful people while walking through positive or difficult times.

We should *expect gratitude to act as a sort of emotional _____, absorbing all sorrow on contact...sorrow is not sin, and gratitude doesn't cancel out _____* (Stern)

Note [Acts 16:22-25](#) and [Philippians 4:4a](#)

3. Being Thankful _____...(note [Ephesians 5:20](#))

Does God want us to thank Him for all the evil in the world today? _____!

Remember, not everything that happens in this world is God's _____ (i.e., The Lord's Prayer).

But think of the greatest evil that has ever happened on _____...

The cross on the one hand represents the _____ of human and satanically-inspired evil.

But it was also on that same cross that the greatest and _____ spiritual victory was won (note [Colossians 2:13-15](#)).

So in God's _____, the greatest evil became the greatest good.

Give thanks = eucharisteo = _____ = Lord's Supper/Communion

Note [Philippians 1:3; 12-18](#)

God wants our holidays to be filled with His light:

- Let's not make the mistake of just wishing _____ will be over and hoping that somehow _____ will be better.
- Thanksgiving 2020 might be and should be one of the most _____ Thanksgivings of our lives...
- ...we will either let ingratitude take us down a slippery _____...
- ...or we can discover that depending on the life and power of the Holy Spirit working in and through us that there are plenty of reasons for us to experience radical gratitude in these final weeks of 2020.

Tell someone about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey! Let us know, too, and fill out our connect card (digital or in person).



SMALL GROUP
guide on the back



DISCUSSION GUIDE

Icebreaker: Would you rather vacation in a 5-star, first class resort in South Dakota or in a tent in Hawaii?

1. What is there to be thankful for in these final weeks of a very difficult year?
2. Pastor Tom said, “an unthankful spirit takes us to wrong ideas about who God really is, and that road soon leads to hearts mired in confusion and straying away from what God has told us and shown us is good and right.” Have you struggled this year with having an unthankful spirit?
3. Read [1 Thessalonians 5:18](#). How are we to be thankful IN all circumstances?
4. Read [Ephesians 5:20](#). How are we to be thankful FOR all things?
5. How does the cross impact our ability to express gratitude? (see [Colossians 2:13-15](#))
6. How can you prepare yourself to have a significant Thanksgiving this year?
7. How might your group experience radical gratitude? Take time to pray together, with each member thanking God with a sentence prayer (i.e., “Thank you, God, for _____.”)

Day One: [Matthew 1](#)

Day Two: [Matthew 2](#)

Day Three: [Matthew 3](#)

Day Four: [Matthew 4](#)

Day Five: [Matthew 5](#)

PERSONAL GUIDE



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TOM LUNDEEN, SENIOR PASTOR

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To be grateful or to show ingratitude is something Jesus takes notice of (note [Luke 17:11-19](#)).

Where is gratitude...or ingratitude, taking you this Thanksgiving week?

Radical gratitude looks like:

2. Being Thankful In...(note [1 Thessalonians 5:18](#))

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