

DISCUSSION GUIDE

- Icebreaker -

What's your favorite thing to do after work?*

- Pastor Nate reminded us that, "Humans are holistic beings that are wholly impacted by our attitudes." Read <u>Proverbs</u>
 4:23, 17:22. When have you seen your attitude (good or bad) affect your well-being?
- 2. Pastor Nate said the barriers to gratitude are real and are compounded when we devote time to "unhealthy attitudes and mental focus." In your experience, what events/circumstances shift you toward unhealthy attitudes and what can you do to cut off this process before it gets rolling? See Luke 12:25-26.
- **3.** Read <u>Romans 1:21</u>, <u>12:2</u> and <u>1 Thessalonians 5:16-19, 23-24</u>. "We are more capable of positive change than we think we are." What attitudes have changed in you over the last few years and what precipitated that change?
- **4.** Pastor Nate reminded us that we need to, "pursue gratitude and enable our internal lives to inform our external circumstances." How does gratitude enable you to see beyond your circumstances? (See **Philippians 4:6, 11b**)
- Notes: "What is your gut response to the command to be grateful? How do you feel today (body, mind, emotions, etc)?" And, "What is the Holy Spirit nudging you to be more grateful for?" Pick one of these questions and share your honest answer with the group.

Day One: Psalm 56

Day Two: Proverbs 25

Day Three: 1 Samuel 7

Day Four: Isaiah 56

This Personal Guide has been adapted from Professor Grant Horner's Bible Reading System.

PERSONAL GUIDE

Day Five: Acts 28

This weeks icebreaker provided courtesy of the Sauk Rapids Nash Small Group







"Gratitude Makes Me Healthier" (Part 2)

Pastor Nate Sickler

gratitude isn't intended by God to just be a one day a year event squeezed into a small part of feasting and football games. It's designed by our Creator to be a "365 days a year" and that shapes and molds our lives in extraordinary ways. 1 Thessalonians 5:18 and Ephesians 5:20
1. Humans are beings that are wholly impacted by our attitudes. (<u>Proverbs 4:23</u> , <u>17:22</u>)
Note <u>Deuteronomy 6:5</u>
a. Practicing gratitude, over time, can have a significant positive impact on our and chemistry.
2. The to gratitude are as as the benefits.
 a. Our response indicates our b. The that we devote to unhealthy attitudes and mental focus the problem. (<u>Luke 12:25-26</u>)
3. If we do not gratitude and enable our internal lives to our external circumstances, then our circumstances will our internal lives. (Romans 1:21)
a. We are more of positive change than we think
we are. (Romans 12:2; 1Thessalonians 5:16-19, 23-24) b. We are less by our circumstances than we feel like
b. The die less by our circumstances than we reel like

we are. (Philippians 4:6, 11b)

What's my gratitude adjustment?:

- What is your ______ to the command to be grateful? This indicates your current habits.
- How do you _____ today (body, mind, emotions, etc)?
- What is the Holy Spirit ______ you to be more grateful for?

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 hard copy).*MYRC.LINK/CONNECT or text riverside to 94000





"Gratitude Makes Me Healthier" (Part 2)

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...gratitude isn't intended by God to just be a one day a year event squeezed into a small part of feasting and football games. It's designed by our Creator to be a "365 days a year" experience and attitude that shapes and molds our lives in extraordinary ways. 1Thessalonians 5:18 and Ephesians 5:20

1. Humans are <u>holistic</u> beings that are wholly impacted by our attitudes. (<u>Proverbs 4:23, 17:22</u>)

Note **Deuteronomy 6:5**

- a. Practicing gratitude, over time, can have a significant positive impact on our <u>brain</u> and <u>body</u> chemistry.
- 2. The <u>barriers</u> to gratitude are as <u>real</u> as the benefits.
- a. Our <u>automatic</u> response indicates our <u>habits</u>.
- b. The <u>time</u> that we devote to unhealthy attitudes and mental focus <u>compound</u> the problem. (<u>Luke 12:25-26</u>)
- **3.** If we do not <u>pursue</u> gratitude and enable our internal lives to <u>inform</u> our external circumstances, then our circumstances will <u>dictate</u> our internal lives. (<u>Romans 1:21</u>)
- a. We are more <u>capable</u> of positive change than we think we are. (Romans 12:2; 1Thessalonians 5:16-19, 23-24)
- b. We are less <u>bound</u> by our circumstances than we feel like we are. (Philippians 4:6, 11b)

What's my gratitude adjustment?:

- What is your <u>gut response</u> to the command to be grateful? This indicates your current habits.
- How do you <u>feel</u> today (body, mind, emotions, etc)?
- What is the Holy Spirit <u>nudging</u> you to be more grateful for?

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