**Thank You Notes**

**Philippians 1: 3-9**

**May 21, 2023**

**DAILY DEVOTION**

Find a rhythm in God’s word this week! Follow this 5 day plan on your own or with your group!

[**https://www.bible.com/en/reading-plans/12540**](https://www.bible.com/en/reading-plans/12540)

**INSPIRATION**

“Being grateful for someone is an emotion we can all relate to. But gratitude is not just an attitude. It’s something that needs to be expressed” – Andy Stanley

**ICE BREAKER**

1. Name one person in your life that you are thankful for and share why.
2. What are some ways you have thanked others?

**DEEP DIVE**

**Read this out loud**

An excerpt from the message this week:

“In one of the most beautiful passages in the Bible Paul expresses his feelings towards those who are receiving this letter. The church would have gathered – and someone would be reading this letter out loud – probably memorized. I can just hear Paul telling the reader – make sure they know – make sure they know – look them in the eye – smile – I want them to know how I feel about them.”

**Read Philippians 1: 3-11 and then answer the following questions:**

1. How would you describe Paul’s feelings for the Philippians?
2. What does he base this feeling and his thankfulness on?
3. Because Paul loves the church at Philippi, what does he pray for them? How have you prayed for someone in the church?

**Read this out loud**

An excerpt from the message this week:

“God is doing a good work through you. It is an unfinished work – it will be completed eventually – just keep moving forward in your faith. God is not finished with you. You are breathing and he is working in your heart.”

**Read Ephesians 2:10 and 1 Corinthians 13:13 and then answer the following questions:**

1. Read Ephesians 2:10. What do you learn about your purpose? We are made in the image of Christ. How does being made in Christ’s image help us with loving others? What does it mean to “walk in the good works” that God prepared beforehand?
2. Paul obviously loved the church at Philippi. According to 1 Corinthians 13:13 the greatest gift is love. How has Christ shown his love to you? How have you shown him your love?
3. What would it look like to love your church? What would it involve?

**Additional Study**

If you have time during your Small Group or you want to study more about the message topic, read and consider the following passages:

* Ephesians 5:20
* Colossians 3:15
* Colossians 4:2

**NEXT STEPS**

1. How could you share your story with family, a neighbor or coworker?
2. Who do you need to let know you are thankful for in your church family? How will you let them know?

**PRAYER**

1. After sharing your next steps, determine who you will pray for throughout the week.
2. Pray for God to speak to your heart about sharing your story and love others.

**SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY**

Establish a regular rhythm of serving together! Below are some service opportunities.

* BENSON - Local Mission Partner is ABIDE. Contact Campus Pastor for more information.
* MILLARD - Local Mission Partner is Heartland Hope. Contact Campus Pastor for more information.
* FREMONT - Local Mission Partner is LifeHouse. Contact Campus Pastor for more information.
* OMAHA - Local Mission Partner is Open Door Mission. Contact Lyndsey Deyoe for more information.
* Or get to know your community! Seek out service opportunities in your area.