Life Group Notes & Discussion Guide for November 8th
"Preparing Our Hearts for Thanksgiving"
"Gratitude: the Key that Opens the Door"

Sermon Text: **Psalm 100:1-5;** New Testament Text: **Colossians 3:12-17;** Gospel Text: **Luke 17:11-19.** Read **Psalm 100:1-5**, then answer the questions that follow.

1. Read **Psalm 100:1.** What types of things might compose ***a joyful noise?***

2. What is the source of our ***joy?***

3. Who or what is expected to ***make this joyful noise?***

4. Read **Psalm 100:2.** How might ***we serve the Lord?***

5. What attitude are we to display as ***we serve the Lord?***

6. According to this verse, what allows us to ***come into God's presence?***

7. Read **Psalm 100:3.** What five things does this verse declare that ***we are to know?***

8. Read **Psalm 100:4.** According to this verse, what two things allow us to come into God's presence?

9. What two things are we directed to do when we've come into His presence?

10. Read **Psalm 100:5.** According to this verse, what three things make God deserving of our ***thanks & praise?***

11. If our primary purpose in heaven is ***to worship the Lord,*** what should we be practicing here on earth?

12. If our worship is to be filled with ***joy & gladness,*** what things do you think might be lacking from those who refuse to open their mouths in worship?

13. Why does refusing to worship show ***greater fear of man*** than ***fear of God?***

Discussion Guide for Your Life Group Meeting

I. At your Life Group meeting, first read **Colossians 3:12-17** aloud. It can be helpful to have several people each read one verse from their Bible. This helps people feel involved and can also introduce some interesting discussion if several translations are used. After reading the passage discuss it. If you are having trouble stimulating discussion, you can try asking some of the following questions:
   1. Read **Colossians 3:12.** First & foremost, what does Paul want to remind us of in this verse?
   2. How might remembering that we are ***to put on*** or ***clothe ourselves*** ***with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience*** cause us to be more intentional about this each day?
   3. Read **Colossians 3:13.** How did ***the lord forgive us?***
   4. How should we forgive those who've hurt or offended us?
   5. Read **Colossians 3:14.** Drawing on what we learned in **1 John,** why is love the perfect virtue with which to unify these virtues?
   6. Read **Colossians 3:15.** What must happen before we can experience ***the peace of Christ in our hearts?***
   7. Why do you think we are often reluctant to do that?
   8. How might ***practicing thankfulness*** enable us to more often experience ***the peace of Christ*** in our hearts?
   9. Read **Colossians 3:16.** How might Life Group help in some way to carry out what Paul commands in this verse?
   10. Read **Colossians 3:17.** How well do you think you carry out Paul's commands in this verse?
   11. How might better observing **Col. 3:12-16,** enable you to better live out **v. 17?**

II. Next read **Luke 17:11-19**, utilizing several group members to each read one verse aloud. After reading the passage discuss it. If you are having trouble stimulating discussion, you can try asking some of the following questions.
   1. Read **Luke 17:11.** What problems existed between the people of ***Samaria & Galilee?***
   2. Read **Luke 17:12-13.** In what ways did these ten lepers show proper respect for the Law?
   3. In what ways did these ten lepers show proper respect for Jesus?
   4. Read **Luke 17:14.** How did Jesus cleanse these ten lepers?
   5. Why did it initially take great faith for these men to be healed?
   6. Read **Luke 17:15-16.** Jesus instructed the ten lepers, ***"Go, show yourselves to the priests."*** Why did one of them have the boldness to return to Jesus before going to the priests?

7. How did the Samaritan demonstrate his thanks to Jesus?
8. Read **Luke 17:17-18.** What surprised Jesus in this account?
9. Do you think the Samaritan's thanks meant much to Jesus?
10. Read **Luke 17:19.** How did Jesus affirm the Samaritan?
11. Do you identify more with the Samaritan or the other 9 lepers? Explain.

III. Read **Psalm 100:1-5,** utilizing several group members to each read one verse aloud. After reading the passage discuss it. If you are having trouble stimulating discussion, you can try asking some of the following questions:
1. Read **Psalm 100:1.** What types of things might compose ***a joyful noise?***
2. What is the source of our ***joy?***
3. Who or what is expected to ***make this joyful noise?***
4. Read **Psalm 100:2.** How might ***we serve the Lord?***
5. What attitude are we to display as ***we serve the Lord?***
6. According to this verse, what allows us to ***come into God's presence?***
7. Read **Psalm 100:3.** What five things does this verse declare that ***we are to know?***
8. Read **Psalm 100:4.** According to this verse, what two things allow us to come into God's presence?
9. What two things are we directed to do when we've come into His presence?
10. Read **Psalm 100:5.** According to this verse, what three things make God deserving of our ***thanks & praise?***
11. If our primary purpose in heaven is ***to worship the Lord,*** what should we be practicing here on earth?
12. If our worship is to be filled with ***joy & gladness,*** what things do you think might be lacking from those who refuse to open their mouths in worship?
13. Why does refusing to worship show ***greater fear of man*** than ***fear of God?***