

Small Group Leader Notes, 11/5/2006

Small group leaders, now that we have completed the 5:1 Transformation we are making available a continued reading schedule for November and December. Those group members who plan to continue this practice can pick up a copy at the church along with blank journal pages. We will list the text, memory verse, and the weekly study questions and scripture-ready schedule in the bulletin each week.

Sunday Message: Psalm 100 "A Psalm of Thanksgiving"

Read this Psalm as an opening thanksgiving prayer expressing gratitude to our God who is worthy to be praised!

Memory Verse: 1 Thessalonians 5:18 "Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

Personal Daily Reading Schedule: This weeks plan is to read and journal from 1 Thessalonians.

- Day 1 - 1 Thessalonians 1
- Day 2 - 1 Thessalonians 2
- Day 3 - 1 Thessalonians 3
- Day 4 - 1 Thessalonians 4
- Day 5 - 1 Thessalonians 5

Small Group Study: 1 Thessalonians 1:2-7

1. How have your relationships grown because you have taken time to thank God for your brothers and sisters and remember them in prayer? *For me, I have become well aware of how when I pray for people God reveals all He is doing in their lives. When I look for the good within the body of Christ I begin to see how God is working and changing lives.*
2. How have you been blessed by seeing others follow Christ and become imitators of God and His people? *For me, I have witnessed God transforming the lives in many people from my small group. I have seen how God has corrected sin, mended the character flaws, prepared His people for specific ministry needs, and moved them into service.*
3. What is the message to us from 1 Thessalonians 1:2-7 as brothers and sisters in Christ? *We have a reason to be thankful and should thank God and remember our brothers and sisters in prayer. We should desire to see more and more people, whom we love, become transformed into his image.*
4. How might your group expand the blessing of thanks by praying and mentoring others in Christ just as Paul, Silas, and Timothy did for the church of the Thessalonians? *Seeking out, praying for, inviting and teaching others what we have become convinced of should bring unity, great joy and thanksgiving to you as part of the unified body of Christ. As the holidays come near, whom and how can you minister to others?*
5. Our memory verse this week says it is God's will that we give thanks in all circumstances. As you pray together, thank God in all circumstances, for He is worthy to be praised. *Often, we have to dig deep inside to really express ourselves fully to God. A simple thank you is never enough to honor our God. A heartfelt gratitude of praise is the only way to thank our God.*

NOTE: WE ARE PLANNING A "BRING YOUR FAVORITE DESSERT NIGHT" SMALL GROUP LEADER MEETING FOLLOWING THE EVENING SERVICE AT 7:15PM ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26TH. THE DISCUSSION SUBJECT WILL BE EVANGELISM THROUGH SMALL GROUPS. PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOU CAN'T MAKE IT.