

## Getting Started

1. What are some practices of gratitude that we have in our church community?
2. What is the most life-giving virtue of Ross Church? Tell stories from our time together that reflect that virtue,
3. What are you thankful for that you do not typically give thanks for or often overlook?
4. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's sermon did you find to be most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain.

## Digging Deeper

### 5. Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 87

**Q. Can those be saved who do not turn to God from their ungrateful and unrepentant ways?**

A. By no means. Scripture tells us that no unchaste person, no idolater, adulterer, thief, no covetous person, no drunkard, slanderer, robber, or the like will inherit the kingdom of God.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> 1 Cor. 6:9-10; Gal. 5:19-21; Eph. 5:1-20; 1 John 3:14

Does this mean if a person is ungrateful they have not accepted the grace of God in Christ?

6. Read 1 Cor. 10:1-6. Paul is telling Christians to learn what from whom?
7. In Ephesians 5:18-21 we read that we are to give thanks always. How can we do that?
8. James 5:13-16 and 1 Thess. 5:13-18 say that prayer and thanksgiving are actions that Christian believers should use often. Why?

## Application

9. Gratitude is a natural response to God's abundance. God gives us life, grace, provides for our daily needs, etc. Write down one thing each day this week that you give thanks to God for.

**Bible Reading Questions**

May 23 – 2 Samuel 24; 1 Chronicles 21-22; Psalm 30 – David is a man after God's own heart, but he keeps sinning against God. Why?

May 24 – Psalms 108-110 – How do respond when you call out to God, but do not hear back?

May 25 – 1 Chronicles 23-25 – Why is David organizing the Levites and priests? What is he preparing for?

May 26 – Psalms 131, 138-139, 143-145 – What is God's purpose for you?

May 27 – 1 Chronicles 26-29; Psalm 127 – What stands out in David's prayer in Chapter 29?

May 28 – Psalms 111-118 – The term “steadfast love” is used often in Psalm 118. It is the translation of the Hebrew word “hesed.” How is steadfast love different from love?

May 29 – 1 Kings 1-2; Psalms 37, 71, 94 – There is a lot of bloodshed in David's family. What is the cause of it? Could it have been prevented?

**Ross Community Reformed Church**

Pastor Shawn Gerbers · May 22nd, 2016

**Slow Church**

**“The Goal is Gratitude”**

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

- **If the essence of God is to \_\_\_\_\_, the essence of humanity is \_\_\_\_\_.**
  
- **God's will is for me to \_\_\_\_\_ and give \_\_\_\_\_.**
  
- **Beware of \_\_\_\_\_!**

Topics: Gratitude, blessings

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A space for gratitude: