



His Thanksgiving

Focus We can live continually in God's presence by developing a life of thanksgiving. Daily provision is from God, and as we walk in obedience to Him, we receive miracles. Our gratitude and love is always expressed in worship.

Fun Do you look forward to a special recipe cooked at Thanksgiving? Has it always turned out perfectly or did it involve trial and error?

Review Key Scriptures: Luke 17:1–19

1. Worship is giving thanks.

Luke 17:15–16

Worship expresses gratitude to God for what we have received, because genuine love is always expressed. Hebrew words in the Old Testament describe different ways of showing gratefulness to God.

- Todah: A thanksgiving choir
- Barak: To kneel or bow in thanksgiving
- Tehillah: To sing a song of thanksgiving
- Halal: To give thanks by being clamorously foolish
- Yadah: To give thanks with extended or lifted hands
- Zamar: To give thanks with a musical instrument
- Shabach: To give thanks in a loud tone or to shout to the Lord

2. Miracles precede gratitude.

Luke 17:15

We say “thank you,” after we’ve received something. Jesus gave us the miracle of new life in Him, so we come together in worship to express our love and thanks to Him.

3. Obedience precedes miracles.

Luke 17:1–10, 14

Obedience precedes miracles, though we don't earn them. The pattern of obedience to God before a miracle is repeated many times in the Bible. For example, we are commanded to obediently forgive, which takes only a little faith. After you receive a miracle, your gratitude causes worship to come forth.

Group Dynamics Idea Before ending the meeting in prayer, ask your members to sit quietly and reflect on a miracle they may be waiting for. Encourage them to believe for their miracle before they receive it. Remind them to keep meeting with God daily so He can share His heart with them.

Discuss

1. In the four Gospels, Jesus gave thanks every time He "broke bread." How does this illustrate that daily provision comes from God?
2. Read Psalm 100:4. What are the different expressions of worship?
3. In Luke 17:10, Jesus says that we should do what God commands. Is obedience based on a suggestion or a duty? How would our actions demonstrate the difference?
4. How much faith is required in obedience? What analogy does Jesus use in Luke 17:6? Share examples of when you obeyed God with only a little faith, and then you were grateful afterward.
5. In what ways do Christians express thanks differently during worship? Name some possible reasons for this.
6. How often is it appropriate to give thanks to God for what we've received? Does worship and obedience increase our expectation to receive more miracles as we walk with God? How so?

Take Home As we conclude, remember the following:

- Miracles are released in our lives as we obey God.
- By expressing our worship, we give thanks for what we've received from Him.
- It is completely appropriate to express our praise in different scriptural ways.

Prayer

Lord, You see every area of our life. We look to You for the miracles we need. Show us where we need to be obedient to Your Word. We want to worship You in an expressive way that shows our gratitude and our extravagant love. Thank You for providing our daily needs. We bow to You, our Father. In Jesus' name, Amen.

New Leader Tip Before worship or prayer, invite your members to draw close to God with their posture. Assure them that it's okay to kneel, bow, lift their hands, and audibly lift their voice. Welcome them to worship God whether they remain seated or choose to stand or kneel in a different part of the room. God's presence always brings comfort and peace.