

# Sunday Leftovers

## Sermon Title: "Thanksgiving"

**What's this message about** – When we think about "thanksgiving" our minds are usually drawn to the holiday celebration. That being the case, our ideas of what that means can be influenced either by our historical perspective of the event or by our personal experiences with the holiday. Is it possible that our idea of the practice and benefits of true thanksgiving is a bit skewed? Sincere thanksgiving isn't something that comes naturally. We can say thank you and even sound enthusiastic, but if our thanks does not change us as well as honor the person we are thanking then it is really not doing what it was designed (by God) to do. Our outward expressions of thanks, when shared with sincerity and enthusiasm, not only show respect and gratitude to the recipient, they also cultivate an inner peace and joy in the person giving thanks. Let's dig into Psalm 100 and glean from that King David's perspective on what thanksgiving is, and can truly be for all of us.

### Questions for discussion:

- *What do you think was the main point of Mike's message?*
- *When you think of Thanksgiving from an historical perspective, what comes to mind?*
- *When you think of Thanksgiving from a personal/experiential perspective, what comes to mind?*
- *How can developing a more overt sense of thanksgiving improve your life?*

### Do something about it:

Intentionally Incorporate Thanksgiving in your everyday life. For one week devote the beginning of your prayer time to Thanking God for something. As the week progresses, add one more thank you to each day (Second day = 2 things we are thankful for, 3<sup>rd</sup> day = 3, etc.). Use this simple practice to allow yourself to become more conscious of all the good things that God has put into your life.

### Digging deeper:

Psalms 100, Philippians 4:6,8; Colossians 4:2; 1 Timothy 2:1-3