

David #8

## A Heart of Thanksgiving

### Word

#### Scripture Reference

2 Samuel 7:1-29

#### Discussion Questions

1. When was the last time you really thanked God for something or someone you have in your life? Please share with the group.
2. Read 2 Samuel 7:1-29. David was no longer running away from King Saul; he was now king of united Israel. In verse 2, what desire did David express to the prophet Nathan? What was the reason why God did not want David to act on this desire (v. 8-9)?
3. What did God mean in verse 11 when he told David, "I will make you a house"? How is God's promise to David to begin a dynasty of kings through him— an amazing legacy that will last forever, significant to you?
4. In verses 18-29, we see from David's prayer of thanksgiving that although he was now king over all Israel, his feet remained on the ground, an attitude that cultivated in him a heart of thanksgiving. We can learn three principles from David's prayer. The first one is to realize your unworthiness and recognize God's goodness. David felt that he was unworthy of God's goodness yet God still graciously gave it to him. Why would thinking that you deserve every good thing that is happening in your life be a roadblock in being thankful? How can you overcome the attitude of entitlement?
5. Psalm 103:1-2 is a good reminder to praise God and to not forget all His blessings. What are some ways we can thank God for the many benefits of being His child?
6. The second principle to cultivate a heart of thankfulness is to realize your insignificance and to recognize God's greatness. Every person is precious in God's eyes, but sometimes we tend to overrate ourselves, as

if the world will not move without us. We forget that we are only one person out of the seven billion people on an earth that measures a mere millimeter when compared to the vastness of God's creation. Which among all of God's creation reminds you of God's greatness and makes you appreciate Him more? How does the fact that the awesome and wonderful God who created the universe protects and cares for you personally impact you?

7. The third principle is to realize your changeability and recognize God's immutability\*. Looking at your life now, how had you and your life situation changed through the years? What should your reaction be to the fact that the God who says He loves you will never change? How can the fact that His character will always be true and right cultivate a heart of thanksgiving in you?

*\* Immutability means that God is unchangeable and thus unchanging... He is never inconsistent or growing or developing. (C. C. Ryrie, "Basic Theology: The Perfections of God," p. 43)*

8. 1 Thessalonians 5:18 tells us that it is the will of God for you to be thankful. Being thankful makes God happy and at the same time transforms your entire attitude and perspective. In what area of your life do you think that having a heart of thanksgiving could transform you?

### Walk

A person who has the attitude of whining or complaining will not experience the joy of the Lord. Count your blessings... name them one by one! Think and list down how this message has helped you to have a heart and attitude of thankfulness.

### Worship & Prayer

**Join the Corporate Prayer Time every Friday, 7:15-8:00pm at the Balcony**

Pray for...

- Blessings for newly baptized members.
- Wisdom for ongoing preparations for the Seniors Appreciation Day (敬老日).
- Complete healing for AOC, Steve, AYC, Mrs. Tan, DPT, Moses (dengue).
- Safe delivery and healthy baby for AGU.
- Salvation and grace for Tian Chin.
- Grace and guidance for JTL.
- Courage for HO to share Gospel to her parents and family members.
- Wisdom for RN to handle family issues.