

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

For the week of October 15-21, 2023
“THE EXCLAMATION POINT OF THANKSGIVING”

GETTING STARTED

To the facilitator: Use this section to introduce the topic. If possible, give a brief recap of the sermon.

Share a memorable point, a spiritual lesson, a personal application, a question, or something that challenged you from the sermon last Sunday.

What's a funny or striking thing you've witnessed at an event (such as a concert, sports game, convention, etc.) that you can never forget?

GROUP DISCUSSION

Read 1 Chronicles 16:1-36.

1. The passage speaks of bringing the ark of God and placing it inside the tent that David had pitched. What was the significance of the ark of the covenant and its importance to the Israelites? What are the implications of David's organization of the priests and Levites in their worship?
2. 1-2 Chronicles was written for the Jews who returned from exile. Reflect on a time when you struggled to find things to be thankful for. How did you eventually find gratitude, and what did you learn from that experience?
3. Read verses 8-36. The passage begins with a call to give thanks to the Lord. Go around the circle, if there is one, and talk about which verse comes alive for you and how. Then share with one another an exclamation of gratitude to God that is personal to you (e.g. for the gift of life on this remarkable planet; for the people you love and who have loved you; for your mentors and models in your life; for the abilities and resources he's entrusted to you; for his Word that guides you, his grace that forgives you, his mercy that preserves you, and his eternal arms that await you; and for whatever else comes to your mind or pours from your heart.)

NEXT STEPS

Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done. (1 Chronicles 16:8 NIV)

- ☐ I will continue to pray daily to express my gratitude and thanks for all that God has given me.
- ☐ I will call on Christ, who is my Savior and Master.
- ☐ I will seek to make Christ known to those who do not know him.

- ☐ *Don't forget to:*
- ☐ Go through the devotionals every day this week.
- ☐ Have a regular daily time of prayer and reading of God's Word.

CLOSING THE SESSION

Close the session by taking the time to pray for one another. Consider the following as you pray:

- Pray for an attitude of gratitude, dependence and a willing heart to share Jesus to those around me.
- Pray for relationships to grow with other Christ-followers, that you will encourage and care for one another.
- Pray for your unsaved family, friends, and loved ones.
- Pray for protection, provision, healing and comfort for everyone who's going through physical, emotional, mental and spiritual pain.

BIBLE READING GUIDE

October 16	1 Chronicles 16:1-36
October 17	Hebrews 13:5-6
October 18	1 Thessalonians 5:12-24
October 19	Psalms 147
October 20	Acts 1:1-11
October 21	John 20:11-18
October 22	Psalms 149:1-5