



EUCHARISTIA: THE GENEROSITY OF GOD'S PRESENCE

November 11, 2019

Pastor Brad Williams

BIBLICAL TEXT(S)

MAIN TEXT(S):

*Deuteronomy 4:9-10; 8:1-3; 8:18; Genesis 1:1-2; John 1:1-4, 14; Matthew 28:19-20
John 20:21-22; and Acts 1:8*

SUMMARY

This time of the year, we are often reminded of the importance of gratitude. Gratitude is beneficial physically, mentally, and spiritually. However, gratitude can be difficult. Throughout the Bible, God calls his people to remember what he has done. This remembrance plays a huge role in gratitude. God is a generous God and when we remember what he has done, we can't help but be grateful.

One of the best gifts that God generously gives us is his presence. Since the beginning of the world, God has been present in our world. With the coming of Jesus, God gifts his presence in an entirely new way. Though Jesus is no longer physically present in the world, we now have the Holy Spirit who allows us to experience God's presence now. This is truly something to be grateful for.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

These questions are designed to help you lead your group through a progression of engagement with the Bible passage and the speaker's message, helping them understand and apply the teaching.

LEAN IN

These are icebreaker/warm up questions, mostly just to get the group talking and start the flow of conversation. Choose one question and talk it over for 5-10 minutes.

1. What is your favorite Thanksgiving food?
2. What are you most grateful for today, right now in this moment?
3. What example or story stood out to you in Sunday's sermon?
Why was it significant to you?
4. What opportunity in your life are you most thankful for?

LOOK DOWN

These are questions on the passage and observations about what's been read.

Spend about 15-20 minutes on three questions max

1. What does God command the Israelites to do in Deuteronomy 4:9-10?
2. How did the Lord provide for the Israelites according to Deuteronomy 8:1-3?
3. What do you learn about God's provision in Deuteronomy 8:18?
4. Read Genesis 1:1-2 and compare it to John 1:1-4, 14. What do you learn about creation from these verses? What do you learn about God from these verses?
5. Read Matthew 28:19-20, John 20:21 and Acts 1:8. What do these verses tell you about the Holy Spirit?

LOOK OUT

These questions help connect the world of the Bible to today.

Spend about 15-20 minutes on three questions max

1. How do we remember important things that have happened in our world?
In what ways do we commemorate significant people, places, and times?
2. How has God provided for his people? Think of some examples from the Bible, from history, or from our own church. Be specific!

3. Who do people give credit to when they are successful or achieve a goal?
Do they usually give credit to others, God, or themselves? Why do you think that is?
4. Brad said in his sermon on Sunday that one of God's best gifts is His presence.
How do people experience God's presence?
5. What is the Holy Spirit's role in making God's presence felt in our world? How have you seen the Holy Spirit work in the lives of others to make God's presence known?

LOOK IN

These are questions that help you consider personal application.

Spend about 15-20 minutes on three questions max

1. How do you remember the things that God has done for you?
Do you have a regular rhythm or a way that you remember what God has done?
2. How has God provided for you in your life?
3. Who do you give credit to when you succeed; others, God, or yourself? Why?
4. How have you experienced God's presence in your life?
5. How is the Holy Spirit working in your life to make you more aware of God's presence?

LIVE IT OUT

These action steps help apply this week's message to day to day life.

Choose one question and talk it over for 5-10 minutes.

1. How will you remember God this week? What will you do this week to be more aware "of what God is doing and what he already has done in your life?"
2. Do you long to experience more of God's presence in your life?
How can your group pray for you as you seek to experience God?
3. What can you do this week to foster a practice of gratitude in your life?

**DISCUSSION
QUESTIONS,
CONT.**

