

**NEW SERIES STARTS APRIL 27 & 28** 

# "THANKS"

April 27&28, 2019 Bill Haslim, Pastor for Student Ministries

### INTRODUCTION

- 1. Can you recall the last five people you've most recently thanked? Try!
- 2. Can you think of 5 things for which you're grateful to God or someone else, but haven't explicitly expressed it?

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- 3. As you listened this weekend to our students share testimonies of what God has been doing in their lives, what did you hear that inspired to challenged you personally?
- 4. If you had three minutes to share what God has done in your life, what key parts of your story would you want to include?
- 5. Most of our concern about the words we choose is focused on how they affect other people. But how do our words affect ourselves?
- 6. Read Luke 6:45 and then read Matthew 15:10-11. These two statements are very similar but not identical. How are the warnings in these two verses different? If the things that come out of our mouths have the power to defile us, what else might they have the power to do?
- 7. Read 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18. How are we supposed to give thanks in <u>all</u> circumstances when some of our circumstances are painful or even tragic?
- 8. How do you think that expressing the word THANKS in our prayers might influence our faith?
- 9. How do you think that expressing THANKS in our conversations might change other aspects of our lives?

# **CHALLENGE**

Try to embrace and elevate the word THANKS in your conversations with other people and with God this week. To do that challenge yourself to intentionally express THANKS to someone else or to God at least 15 times in a day. Then reflect on how that practice has an influence on attitude and relationships.

### **COMMIT TO MEMORY**

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. **1 Thessalonians 5:16-18** 

# **PRAY**

As you close your time together, focus your prayer time on giving thanks to God. You may even want to start by sharing what you are most thankful for before you pray.