

**“Looking the Fool ”  
A Personal or Small Group Experience**

Thanks giving and thankful living are so integral to a healthy life and to healthy relationships. We all know what it feels like to have given something or done something for someone else and there was not the responding “gratitude in their heart!” It is an icky feeling laced with hurt and feeling used and abused which can give way to bitterness and despair. Lack of gratitude is a signal that maybe the relationship is not as healthy as it could be or should be.

On the other hand we also know the feeling when gratitude is present—when genuine thankfulness flows within the relationship. I must admit I am personally strengthened in my heart when someone is and expresses thankfulness for me as a person in addition to what I have done. In the same way I need to remember the power of thanksgiving in the relationships I have. I am truly thankful for the people I get to do life with. I need to make sure they know it and they need to witness me giving thanks for them to God and others.

Spend a little time thinking and sharing about the power of gratitude and the impact of ingratitude in your relationships. Try to share at least one example of each and note how gratitude/ingratitude affected the relationship.

As you look at the two scripture passages below try to see the relational aspects of gratitude and ingratitude.

What emotions are evoked?

What all is going on in the heart of the “giver” in the relationship as they experience both gratitude and ingratitude from the one they gave to?

What is all is going on in the “receiver” in the relationship as they are either thankful or unthankful for what they have received?

Process what these realities mean for your relationship with God and others! How do these stories change you?

**Ezekiel 16:1-19** ( This is a very interesting section! It is a symbolic story of God’s feelings about His people and how they have treated Him after He has been so good to them!)

**Luke 17:11-19**



**Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you.**

**Isaiah 60:1**

**“Connecting With God” Weekly Guide**

This booklet is a resource to help you “Connect with God” this week. He deeply desires ongoing personal connection with you. You are that important to Him.

**This Page** has some scripture verses for you to meditate on each day this week. Notice the helpful hints section – these are great things to consider when personally engaging with God through His Word.

**The Center Pages contain** the notes and outline for the message given on Sunday. The message is also available as an audio download from [www.pointofgracechurch.org](http://www.pointofgracechurch.org)

**The Back Page** has a study written specifically for a small group of people (or an individual) to drill down deeper into a particular aspect of the week’s theme. Small groups can review memorable points of the week’s message and then work through the study concluding with a time of prayer.

*Scripture & Meditation Guide - November 22-27*

**Helpful Hints:**

- 1) Find a quiet place along with 15-20 minutes!
- 2) Focus on God for a few moments asking His Spirit to speak to your heart!
- 3) Listen to Him by reading a section of scripture then rereading it several times, dwelling on “words and phrases” which grab your heart’s attention.  
Ask God, “What do You want me to hear?” “Why this word at this time?”  
“How are You inviting me to respond?”

- 4) Pray everything that is on your heart and mind as you are ready!

*Worship Him, Bless Him, Thank Him, Ask Him, Trust Him*

**Monday:** Psalm 100

**Tuesday:** Luke 17:11-19

**Wednesday:** Philippians 4:4-7

**Thursday:** Colossians 3:15-17

**Friday:** Psalm 98

**Saturday:** Psalm 103