

When Hearts Collide Part 4: Thankfulness

Remember, small groups are primarily for growing closer relationships with other believers. We can learn wonderful things in this environment but keep relationships first.

- **When Hearts Collide**
- **Recap:** The Scriptures describe believers “receiving” a spirit. The Holy Spirit.
 - o Realize there is more than just an intellectual side to your walk with Christ, there is a spiritual side to it too. Seek and receive!!
- Fruits of the Spirit: **Galatians 5:22-25**
 - o What would your life be like if you fully attained the fruits of the Spirit?
 - o The shortcut to feeling good is the sinful nature: **Galatians 5:19-21**
 - o WE are the temple of the Holy Spirit. **1 Corinthians 3:1-17**
- **The Miracle Power of Thankfulness**
- Today, we are going to be talking about thankfulness.
 - o I’m going to make the assumption that a thankful heart is a Godly heart.
- This world needs more thankful people. Let’s be those people!
 - o Is this an overflow from our circumstances to our heart, or does it affect our circumstances?
 - o Thermometer or Thermostat?
 - Thankfulness is not just a feeling based on your circumstances; it’s a heart condition that helps you overcome your circumstances!
- **1 Thessalonians 5:16-18**
- How do we interpret 1 Thess 5:16-18?
 - o V16: Don’t lose your joy. Don’t let the darkness of this world become darkness in your heart.
 - Can you be sad, devastated, etc? Sure, but keep your joy.
 - o V17: Be a person of prayer and don’t stop being a person of prayer.
 - The 24/7 idea is just weird and impossible.
 - o V18: Be a thankful person whatever your circumstances are.
 - Thankful “for” vs “in.”
 - Was Jesus thankful “for” everything?
 - How about the money changers in the Temple? **John 2:13-16**
 - Jesus saw an injustice and he fought it. He didn’t give thanks for it and call it a blessing in disguise.
 - But Jesus didn’t stop being a person of love, peace, joy, and thankfulness?
- To help us answer our first questions let’s ask: What did Jesus give thanks for?
 - o Combining NIV, NKJV, and NASB there are basically 4 situations; of Jesus giving thanks.
 - o 1st: feeding the 4,000 and the 5,000. **Matthew 14:15-21**
 - When did Jesus give thanks?
 - What did he give thanks for?
 - What was the result?
 - o 2nd: Lazarus’ tomb. **John 11:38-44**
 - o 3rd: Evaluating his 72 disciples. **Luke 10:17-21**
- What challenges are you facing?
 - o When do you give thanks?
 - o What do you give thanks for?
 - o What will the result be? The miracle power of thankfulness!
 - Giving thanks (if real) will change your circumstances! Keep it up!!!
 - o There is one more situation where Jesus gave thanks; at the last supper. **Luke 22:17-20**
 - o Who needs help having a thankful heart? Let’s ask God to help us.
- Pray for each other before you finish up!