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# THANKFUL

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## The Power of Thanks

### Praise and Thanks

What's in my heart? The response, the expression reflecting the occasion.

### Giving thanks - The wrestle for the church

A ministry for the people or?

*Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise, give thanks to him and bless his name.*

(Psalm 100:4-5)

*He who has been forgiven much, loves much.*

(Luke 7:47)

We don't typically give thanks when we receive something we expect.

### God cares about our (collective) response (Luke 17)

Seeing the value in what we are bringing –

*You are holy enthroned upon the praise of your people.*

(Psalm 22:3)

1 Peter 2 - We are a chosen and royal priesthood – offering acceptable sacrifices and declaring the praises of Him.

## **Praise makes its way out!**

Praise doesn't remain within us.

A focus on all the 'scaffolding' causes us to miss what's behind it all.

*I entered your house ... what did you give me?  
(Luke 7:41-47)*

## **Questions for Discussion**

1. How do you go with giving and expressing thanks?

2. Describe how you see and have thought of times of praise and thanks?

What's your role? Do you see it as a ministry for the Lord?

3. What have you truly received from the Lord?

What does that motivate and stir up within you? What are you willing to do?

4. Have you ever thought about God caring about the response of His people (collectively)?

What does that then mean for your approach when you gather?

5. What does God highlight to you out of Psalm 22:3?

What's the opposite of that?

6. Has your focus been in the wrong place within this time?

What can you do from this point forward in this area?