

JANUARY NUGGETS

FAMILY WORSHIP



Encouragements for Cultivating Holiness – Part 1

"For God has not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness".

1 Thessalonians 4:7

The noted Puritan, Thomas Watson, called pursuing holiness "sweating work". Thankfully, God provides us with several 'motivations' in His Word. Allow me to suggest the first of two propositions in a series of Bible truths.

God has called us to holiness for your good and His glory (1Thessalonians 4:7). Whatever He calls us to, very simply, is necessary. The fact that He has "called us", combined with all the benefits we experience from holy living, should induce us to seek and practice holy living.

Holiness strengthens our spiritual well-being. God promises us that "no good thing will He withhold from them that walk uprightly" (Psalm 84:11). John Flavel wrote, "What health is to the heart, holiness is to the soul." In his book "Holiness", Richard Baxter's chapter titles are illuminating: "Holiness is the only way of safety", "Holiness is the only gainful way", and "Holiness is the most pleasant way".

But, perhaps most importantly, holiness glorifies the God you love (Isaiah 43:21). The Puritan, Thomas Brooks, declared "Holiness makes most for God's honor".

A second thought – Holiness makes you resemble God and preserve your integrity. Again, Thomas Watson comments, "We must endeavor to be like God in sanctity. It is a clear glass in which we can see a face; it is a holy heart in which something of God can be seen." Scripture gives us a pattern for holiness – a pattern of holy humility (Philippians 2:5-13), compassion (Mark 1:41), forgiveness (Colossians 3:13), unselfishness (Romans 15:3), indignation against sin (Matthew 23), and prayer (Hebrews 5:7). Holiness cultivated, to resemble God and be patterned after Christ, saves us from hypocrisy and from resorting to a 'Sunday only Christianity'. It gives us energy, purpose, meaning, direction, and a perspective of God that should continually be in the forefront of our minds.

– Chuck Wetzels, January 2021

JANUARY

Birthdays & Anniversaries

3 Jesse & Margo Barrett (A)

10 Pat Geiger (B)

12 Evans Singer (B)

14 Norm Westervelt (B)

17 Joanna Barrett (B)

Jennifer (Jackson) Liddington (B)

21 Joanie Spiegel (B)

24 Justin Bowen (B)

Derek Gilbert (B)

25 Adam Keller (B)

26 Mackenzie Butler (B)

27 Caleb Osburn (B)

28 Fred & Jean Giessman (A)

29 Beaty Monell (B)

30 Mark & Kelly Rockwell (A)

Megan Caslin (B)

31 Tommy Doyle (B)

Jeanie Hochberg (B)

Fear or Faith in 2021?

Covid-19, isolation, quarantines, masks, virtual schooling, working from home, social unrest and riots, hurricanes, wildfires, floods, droughts, epic snowstorms; it's been quite a year. I think we're grateful to take down calendar year 2020 and enter 2021. But will this next year be any better? Will it be worse? Already there are reports of the corona virus mutating and the flu as well.

A normal human reaction would be uncertainty, trepidation, and perhaps fear. We don't know the future. Nor are we meant to. We live in the here and now, not having sight of the path ahead. We were created dependent on God for our daily walk and even our very next breath.

He want us to trust Him. He is our heavenly Father and wants us to have faith as His little children. He holds our right hand and tells us not to fear because He helps us. (Isaiah 41:13). Isaiah 30:15 "...in repentance and rest thou shall be saved, in quietness and trust shall be your strength..." Isaiah 12:2 "...God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid..." Psalm 84:12 "O Lord of hosts, blessed is the one who trusts in You!" Isaiah 26:3 "You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You."

Matthew 6:25-34 is an entire section from the Sermon on the Mount about not being anxious or worried. Philippians 4:6-7 tells us not to be anxious, but give it to God and the peace of God will guard our hearts and minds. Jesus promises us His peace in John 14:27 that we are not to be troubled or afraid.

We don't have to fear the future! He knows what's going to happen and we can trust Him. A favorite song of mine starts and ends like this: "I don't know about tomorrow...many things about tomorrow I don't seem to understand, but I know Who holds tomorrow, and I know Who holds my hand."

-Dan & Susie Baker

Weekly Reflection

Read through the passages from this week .

Paraphrase what you learned about loving others this week.

What did you observe from this week's text about God and His character?

What areas do you need to address in your life based upon what you studied?

What specific action steps can you take this week to apply the passage?

Connie's Corner

HOPE. "My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus blood and righteousness." "On Christ the solid rock I stand!" (I "hope" you are singing as you read.) As we embark on 2021, let's stand together on our Solid Rock!

Here are some simple recipes for two to four people.

Crock Pot Apple Pork Chops

4-6 pork chops, 3 apples (peeled and sliced), 1 onion (sliced), spicy brown mustard, 1 TBSP sugar, 1 tsp. cinnamon.

Place chops in a crock pot. Spread mustard on top of each chop, sprinkle apples and onions over the chops. Sprinkle cinnamon and sugar on the apples and onions. Cover and cook on high for 6 hours or low for 8 hours. You can serve over noodles, rice or smashed baked potatoes.

Simplified Baked Chicken

Boneless thighs or chicken breasts

Dredge 4-6 chicken pieces in sour cream seasoned with garlic powder, salt, and pepper. Roll chicken in crushed Ritz crackers and place on a foil-lined baking sheet (for easy cleanup). Drizzle each chicken piece with melted butter and bake at 400° for 45 minutes or until done and juices run clear.

Sweet and Sour Chicken

1 1/2 boneless chicken thighs, cut in pieces; 1 small red pepper, cut in pieces; 1 10 oz bottle sweet and sour sauce (3/4 cup); 1 can (8 oz) pineapple tidbits, drained.

Cook chicken until no longer pink; add bell pepper and sweet and sour sauce. Cook until pepper is tender. Stir in pineapple; cook until heated through. Garnish with optional chopped cashews and sliced green onions. Serve over rice.

January 2021

This month we are doing something new. We have gotten used to studying the word of God together and answering questions. Now we are going to focus on your family prayer time. There are still main passages and connected scripture to read most days. But focus more on using the information you learn each day in your prayer. So every-day read through scripture, read through the commentary, and then discuss the "suggestions" portion before you actually pray. Discuss what each person is going to say as they pray. Some suggestions may not make seem to fit with your family, and that is fine! The important part is that you pray together as a family! Strive to spend two minutes praying specifically on the suggested topic of the day. Doing so will make you work think deeper and focus more time on Jesus!

As we develop throughout the month on the different topics of Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, and Stuff, challenge yourselves to add the new topic to the ones already covered. For example, when you get to Thanksgiving still pray for two minutes on the subject of Adoration and two minutes on Confession.

Let's strive to have our families think of the living room as the worship center of their life!

Pastor Ben

Steps:

1. Pray for focus.
2. Read twice.
3. Mark key words, repeated words, mark what seems to JUMP OUT at you as important, and write down questions you have over words or phrases.

Answer questions using connected scripture and study Bible notes.

5. What does this teach me about God?

6. Application:

1. How do I need to think differently?

2. What behavior(s) do I need to stop doing?

3. What behavior(s) do I need to start doing?

Monday January 4th
Holiness

Scripture: Isaiah 6:1-5 "... Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!..."

Connected Scripture: Leviticus 11:44-45 ;Joshua 24:19; Isaiah 40:25; 1 Peter 1:15-16

Holiness can be defined as, "*The quality of being set apart... God is distinct from the universe and is separate from sin.*" - Barackman. We often think of the holiness of God as merely stating that He is sinless. This is true, but it also carries the idea that He is above what is common and ordinary. He is not only without evil but is set apart from the ordinary.

This means so much more when Peter tells us to be holy. It means we are not only to be sinless, but to be set apart from what is ordinary. Ryrie states, "This should put to an end the often useless discussions over what is permitted and what is not in the Christian life. Proper conduct can be tested by the simple question, "Is it Holy?" This is the believer's standard."

Adoration Suggestions:

1. Use a phrase from a verse above and elaborate on it in your own words.
2. Meditate on the imagery of holiness in the scene in Isaiah 6.
3. Think back to Bible passages that give an example of God's holiness.
4. Think about how God, who is by nature separate from all that is common, chose your sin saturate soul for salvation and imputes His holiness into you.

Thursday January 28th
Submission

Scripture: Ephesians 5:21 "Submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ."

Connected Scripture: Ephesians 1:22, Philippians 2:3; 1 Peter 5:5

Let me "admonish" you. Remember that this word means to give wisdom about how to act godly in future situations. I would memorize the above verse. This verse is something you need to be able to recall at any given moment. Everyday you encounter many circumstances that ignite your frustration and you want to lash out at others. You need to preach this verse to yourself in these moments. Submit to one another... submit to one another... submit to one another. This will help remind you how to treat others who frustrate you.

The verse ends by stating we do this out of respect for Jesus. Jesus submitted to us by humbling himself and dying on the cross for our sins. If He can do that for me, I can endure frustrating people on a daily basis. Even if you don't encounter frustrating people, this is the attitude you should approach every relationship with. Submit to everyone in your life. Seek to serve them, as Christ did for you!

Today talk as a family about how you can submit to one another. Think of little things around the home that would go a lot smoother if everyone adopted an attitude of submission! Pray for each other in this way.

Wednesday January 27th

Bear with one another.

Scripture: Galatians 6:1-2 "... Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ."

Connected Scripture: Romans 15:1-3; Galatians 6:9; Colossians 3:12-14.

Relationships are hard. What we find is that we naturally avoid relationships that don't benefit us. However, God places each person in our life for a reason! The passages above list different ways we need to help our family and friends. Here are a few of them.

1. Put up with one another. Everyone is different than us, and that is a good thing! Their quirks, interests, and different opinions are good for us to put up with. We need to work on loving them as they are.
2. Pick up one another. The people around us will fail by sinning against God and us. Romans 15 says a mature person is one who puts aside hurts and wounds and helps those who are struggling in sin. We shouldn't run away from people in sin, we should run to them.
3. Pull up one another. People around you face adversity. The idea of Galatians 6 is that we put another person on our back and carry them through life for a period of time. The people in your life who are hurting need you the most!

Tonight, pray for people who fall in the above categories. Pray for them and think of ways to endure them or help them.

Tuesday January 5th

Eternality

Scripture: Psalm 90 "... Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God..."

Connected Scripture: Genesis 21:33; Exodus 3:14; Revelation 1:8; John 8:38

The eternity of God is defined by Grudem as; "*God has no beginning, end, or succession of moments in his own being, and he sees all time equally vividly, yet God sees events in time and actions in time.*" This attribute of God means that God is not stuck in our concept of time. He can exist 100 years ago and 100 years into the future any-time He wishes. He sees it all as if it is present.

Think of God's experience with time like a book we are very familiar with. We can open to any page and know what happens on that page. By looking at that page we know what just happened and what is about to happen. Now, remember God can "look at all pages" in present vividness from every person that ever lived throughout all of time...wow!

Adoration Suggestions:

1. Use a phrase from a verse above and elaborate on it in your own words.
2. Discuss and meditate on the logic of God's eternity. It will result in an awe for His being and power.
3. Think back to Bible passages that give an example of God's eternity.

Wednesday January 6th
Unchangeable

Scripture: Psalm 102:25-27 "... they will pass away, but you are the same, and your years have no end..."

Connected Scripture: Psalm 33:11, Isaiah 46:10-11, Malachi 3:6, James 1:17

This characteristic of God is called immutability, but unchangeableness is a more understandable term. Barackman defines this characteristic by saying, *"God's nature never changes by development or degeneration as ours does... God is unchanging in His purpose, in His word, and in His attributes."* This characteristic means that God does not change His mind about you. If He chose to save you, there is nothing you can do to surprise Him or to make Him change His mind. God does not change His purposes. God is always good and all things will work together for good.

This is one of the characteristics that is vastly different from human authorities we have had in our past. Humans change. Humans are not consistent. When another person finds out something about you they can change their opinion of you or how they treat you. Not so with God. He is constantly good!

Adoration Suggestions:

1. Use a phrase from a verse above and elaborate on it in your own words.
2. Think back to Bible passages that give an example of God's immutability.
3. Think back to times in your life you where you were grateful that God is unchanging.
4. Think of God's promises that are true for your present and future.
5. Meditate on the concept that God cannot develop or degenerate.

Tuesday January 26th
Admonishing

Scripture: "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs." - Colossians 3:16

Connected Scripture: Proverbs 27:6; Romans 15:14; 1 Thessalonians 5:14

The word admonish sounds like a harsh word. It sounds like a punishment of some sorts. It actually can be defined as, "to give wisdom about how to act godly in future situations." In our homes we need to pass along information in a loving and gracious way on how to act Godly in different situations.

Parents, you need to instruct your children on how to act before they encounter situations. You need to take the word of God and steadily feed your children the truth of God so when they encounter a situation, they already now how to deal with it. Children, you need to listen to your parents. The information may not seem relevant now but store it away, and I promise you it will someday!

What advice seemed ridiculous when you heard it, but found out it was very important?

What command of God have you felt was unimportant, but have found it be crucial to your spiritual life?

Pray together as a family by adoring Christ, confessing sin, thanking God, and anything else that needs prayer.

Monday January 25th
Be devoted.

Scripture: Romans 12:10 "Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor."

Connected Scripture: Philippians 2:3; Hebrews 13:1; 1 Peter 2:17

Is anyone in your family competitive? I know I am... to a fault. No one I know will play the board game Scattogories with me anymore. This fast paced game of thinking of alliterated items has rules that aren't as clear as other games. I tend to... be "generous" with the rules, especially when it comes to my answers. If you want to play, let me know, I will come beat you!

Anyways, in this verse above we see a competition. "Outdo one another" means that you intentionally focus loving others more than they love you. You win at showing them love. We ought to be devoted to our family and seek to show them Christ's love at every chance we get!

Here are some suggestions to win at loving them:

1. Compliment them.
2. Learn their "love language."
3. Show love randomly.
4. "Lose" your conversations with them. Make sure you talk about them more than you talk about yourself!

For prayer this week, seek to continue the A.C.T.S. model. Spend eight minutes walking through the steps!

Thursday January 7th
Omnipresence

Scripture: Psalm 139:7-11 "... If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there!..."

Connected Scripture: Jeremiah 23:23-24; Deuteronomy 10:14; 1 Kings 8:27

Wayne Grudem states, *"God does not have size or spatial dimensions and is present at every point of space with his whole being, yet God acts differently in different places."* This is another very encouraging characteristic of God. He is fully everywhere at the same time. A common misconception is that we think of Church as "God's house." This is not true, God is just as prominent in your garage as He is in church. His home is your heart. Worship doesn't only happen at church, God is not exclusively there. He is with you everywhere. Now, let's take a step deeper. God is three persons and each of them serve a different role as they are present in our life. Barackman states, *"While God is with all people metaphysically as their Creator; the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit have a personal relationship with each saved person as his Parent, Master, and Helper."*

Adoration suggestions:

1. Use a phrase from a verse above and elaborate on it in your own words.
2. Meditate on the logic of God's omnipresence. It will result in an awe for His being and power.
3. Think back to Bible passages that give an example of God's omnipresence.
4. Think back to times in your life where God's omnipresence affected you, or in hindsight helped you.

Weekly Reflection

Read through the passages from this week .

Paraphrase what you learned about praying this week.

What did you observe from this week’s text about God and His character?

What areas do you need to address in your life based upon what you studied?

What specific action steps can you take this week to apply the passage?

Steps:

1. Pray for focus.
2. Read twice.
3. Mark key words, repeated words, mark what seems to JUMP OUT at you as important, and write down questions you have over words or phrases.

4. Answer questions using connected scripture and study Bible notes.

5. What does this teach me about God?

6. Application:

1. How do I need to think differently?

2. What behavior(s) do I need to stop doing?

3. What behavior(s) do I need to start doing?

Weekly Reflection

Read through the passages from this week .

Paraphrase what you learned about God’s attributes this week.

What did you observe from this week’s text about God and His character?

What areas do you need to address in your life based upon what you studied?

What specific action steps can you take this week to apply the passage?

Steps:

1. Pray for focus.
2. Read twice.
3. Mark key words, repeated words, mark what seems to JUMP OUT at you as important, and write down questions you have over words or phrases.

4. Answer questions using connected scripture and study Bible notes.

5. What does this teach me about God?

6. Application:

1. How do I need to think differently?

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3. What behavior(s) do I need to start doing?

Monday January 11th
Confessing sins to one another.

Scripture: James 5:13-16 "... Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working."

Connected Scripture: Matthew 3:6; Mark 1:5; Romans 14:11; Acts 19:18.

As we talked about on Sunday, a specific audible confession to God is essential as we work through the sin in our lives. The Bible goes a step further and states we need to confess our sins to each other. There are two reasons we should do this. First of all, if we have sinned against someone we need to confess that and apologize. Second of all, other people can help us work through the issues in our life. Finding someone who can give us wisdom on how to overcome certain struggles is huge! Now, when you confess your sins to others you need to use discretion. You need to find someone you can trust with your secrets.

Confession Suggestions:

1. Go around the room and share any thought or action that you need to apologize to each other for.
2. Maybe there is a common struggle you have that someone else can help with.
3. Don't just think of sins of commission (intentional outward thoughts or actions), but sins of omission (sins of not doing what you know you should do).
4. Practice this regularly. Create a culture of grace, trust, and forgiveness in your home!

Thursday January 21st
Looking at the heart.

Scripture: 1 Samuel 16:7-13 "... But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart...."

Connected Scripture: 1 Chronicles 28:9; Psalms 7:9, 147:10-11; Isaiah 55:8-9

On Sunday we talked about improving our prayer lives. We need to adopt the thinking of God towards people. Remember that all physical issues are allowed by God for spiritual growth in someone. When someone has an adversity in their life we should not only pray that the adversity be relieved. God brought that into their life for a reason. God is sovereign and will remove that when the time is right.

So, I want you to rethink how you pray for everyone. You have a responsibility to help one another grow in their relationship with God. Start praying for people in this way. Think of someone you are discipling, or love deeply and mentally work through the following list. It would probably be best that each person pray privately during this section as discussing sins in other people can quickly turn into gossip.

1. Observe the actions of others and evaluate their love for God.
2. Discern what their spiritual next step is and begin praying for them to make that step.
3. If there is adversity in their life, pray that through this adversity they find their satisfaction in God.
4. Seek out ways to exhort them to make that next step.

Wednesday January 20th
Emotional companionship.

Scripture: Psalm 63:1 "O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water."

Connected Scripture: Joshua 1:9; Psalm 16:11,23:4; John 16:7; 1 Corinthians 3:16

We touched on emotional needs yesterday, but today we are going to talk about a very important need most people fail to embrace. God promises to fill our need for companionship. Yes, we are designed for relationships. As we actively pursue discipling others we will find those friendships we need. However no one will fill us like God can fill us.

David cries out in the passage above hungry for the Lord's presence! This is a great visual. Jesus told us in John's passage that the Holy Spirit resides with us throughout our lives. Isn't that neat? God's presence is always with us. We can talk to Him at anytime.

If you are lonely, spend time on your own thinking about God and talking to Him. Discuss how you can enjoy the companionship of the Lord and thank the Lord for His presence.

Tuesday January 12th

Confess one sin out-loud and one sin privately.

Scripture: Psalm 32:5 "I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin."

Connected Scripture: Psalm 38:18, 51:3; Proverbs 28:13; 1 John 1:9

Day two of confessing sin! I am grateful you came back for more, most probably won't, lol. Yesterday I asked you to confess your sins to one another that you committed against one another. Today, I want you merely to confess a sin out loud. It doesn't have to be a sin you have committed against a person in the room, just one in general.

Why is this important? When we state clearly what we struggle with it adds a depth of reality to it. It adds color to it. It also is freeing. The famous saying "confession is good for the soul" is true. Another reason it is good to confess your sin out loud is that it adds accountability. When other believers admit a struggle to us it means we help them work through that struggle. We check in, encourage, admonish, and help celebrate when someone works through a struggle.

So, today admit one sin out loud that you struggle with to someone. There will also be sins you don't feel comfortable telling someone out loud, state these to the Lord. Then pray for one another.

Wednesday January 13th
Thanks for all circumstances.

Scripture: Ephesians 5:20 "Giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Connected Scripture: 2 Samuel 2:18; Colossians 3:17,4:2; 1 Thessalonians 5:18; 1 Timothy 6:6

Now we move on to the portion of our prayer of Thanksgiving. This part of our prayer is simple, praise the Lord for what He has done for you and gives to you. I want to repeat what I stated earlier regarding adoration. The adoration part of your prayer is specifically praising God for who He is, not for what He gives to you. Adoration needs to be purely about God and His character.

The importance of this section is clear. When we thank the Lord for what we have we develop contentment. We often focus on what we don't have, but we ought to focus on what we do have.

Today, go around the room and have everyone list at least one thing they are thankful for. Then, have each person praise the Lord for what He has given them.

Tuesday January 19th
Daily needs.

Scripture: Matthew 6:30-34 "But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?..."

Connected Scripture: Psalms 23:1; James 4:13-14; Philippians 4:19

It is true that some of the times we are closest to God is when we are the poorest. We struggle to pay bills, we feel ashamed, and truly need God to supply for us. When the blessing of God comes we often forget that He gave us what we have each day. Today, thank the Lord for what He has supplied for you today. Food, transportation, technology, housing, and strength. If you are lacking anything, lift that request before the Lord!

Another area of daily needs we have is emotional needs. It is interesting that no one is rich in emotional stability. We are all only one tough conversation away from feeling broken and beaten. Also pray for the emotional needs you have for today. Do you need wisdom? Do you need strength? Do you need love? Do you need joy? Do you need mental focus? Ask God for these things also!

Spend time discussing what physical or emotional needs your family has and pray for one another.

Monday January 18th
Ask for wisdom.

Scripture: James 1:5-8 "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives to all generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him..."

Connected Scripture: 1 Kings 3:9-12; Proverbs 2:3-6; Matthew 7:7

I would love if the above verse was fill in the blank. If we take out "wisdom" and put in whatever we want, that would be great! Unfortunately, and probably fortunately, this is not an option. However, it is important to note the implications of this verse. God promises to give you wisdom when you need it. He may not give you money, people, or things. However He will give you wisdom 100% of the time.

Now, how does God do this? Does He text you? Nope. God uses a variety of ways to tell us what we ought to do. Primarily it is through the Word of God. He may use a verse or phrase to give us moral direction. God also uses other people. Either we seek them out or God brings them to us. God will also speak to us in our prayers. We have to be still, silent, and receptive to God's direction. The Holy Spirit will use the words of God, our affections, sometimes a still small voice, and will give us peace when He tells us what we need to do.

Go around the room and discuss areas each person needs wisdom. Pray for one another that God will reveal the right course of action at the right time.

Thursday January 14th
Areas of your life to thank God for.

Scripture: Philippians 4:6 "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God."

Connected Scripture: Psalm 7:17, 100:5; 107:1; Colossians 3:15

We often thank God for the same things over and over again. I would bet that yesterday as you went around the room people said things such as "my family," "my home," "Jesus," "my salvation," "good health," and the most sarcastic child said "my parents." How do I know? I have my ways....

Anyways, today I want you to think deeper about things you are thankful for. Think broader about what you have and what God has done for you. The rule for today is NO ONE can list anything anyone stated yesterday.

I will give you some suggestions:

- Your relationships outside of your family.
- Your skills, talents, and abilities that make you unique.
- Your current situation.
- What God has accomplished for you.
- What God has accomplished through you.

Now thank the Lord together!

Weekly Reflection

Read through the passages from this week .

Paraphrase what you learned about confessing sin and thanksgiving this week.

What did you observe from this week's text about God and His character?

What areas do you need to address in your life based upon what you studied?

What specific action steps can you take this week to apply the passage?

Steps:

1. Pray for focus.
2. Read twice.
3. Mark key words, repeated words, mark what seems to JUMP OUT at you as important, and write down questions you have over words or phrases.

4. Answer questions using connected scripture and study Bible notes.

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6. Application:

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