

November 23, 2008

Two Buckets of Thanksgiving

(Thanksgiving suggests maturity)

In Philippians 1:1 Paul unfolds one of the core truths of the Christian faith: A Christian is a _____ and servant of Jesus Christ.

“In every truly Christian life the most obvious evidence of the experience of God's grace and peace is _____ and _____.” (www.biblegateway.com commentary)

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 shows an Apostle's perspective early in his writing career.

Although we can't be exactly precise, Paul's writings were written approximately as follows:

1 and 2 Thessalonians and 1 Corinthians in _____ AD

2 Corinthians and Galatians in 57 AD

Romans in 55-57 AD and Ephesians in 57-58 AD

Philippians, Colossians in _____ AD

Philemon in 63 AD

Hebrews, Titus, 1 Timothy in 64-65 AD

2 Timothy in 66-67 AD

Most likely, Philippians is written at least _____ years after 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 and Paul is still, in Philippians 1:3, declaring and living with thanksgiving. (2 Corinthians 11:23-29)

The Two Buckets

1. Christian maturity includes the ability to choose the bucket to which you will give _____.
2. Christian maturity includes knowing your _____ and _____ and being thankful for them.
3. Christian maturity includes the power to direct one's _____.
4. Christian maturity includes thankfulness in _____.
5. Christian maturity includes eyes that view your partnerships beyond the present _____.

November 23, 2008
Life Group Study Questions – Final Week

Two Buckets of Thanksgiving

Connecting with Friends:

1. If you could do or be anything, what would you choose? Why?
2. What kind of work ethic were you raised with?

Growing through God's Word:

1. Please think through your purpose, partnerships, and prayer and how they relate to your heart of thanksgiving.
2. Please share with your group a point or illustration from this weekend's message that seemed to speak directly into your life.
3. If you could have any "job" in God's marvelous Kingdom, where would you serve and why?
4. What have you learned that helps you anchor your life in the purpose, partnership, and prayer bucket?
5. Our founding Pastor, Brother Sheneman, used to say, "Count your blessings, name them ton by ton." What blessings can you name?

Caring for one another in prayer:

1. How can your Life Group pray with you about your area of ministry? If you are not currently serving in an area of ministry, how can your life group pray with you about getting involved?
2. This is the week of Thanksgiving. Close your Life Group prayer time by each one giving thanks to the Lord for something He has done!