

BEING JESUS CHRIST TO THE WORLD

Building Community, Changing Lives, Bringing Hope.

# "Blessed to be a Blessing"

**Theme: Grateful Hearts** Sermon Scripture: Psalm 95:2

**Family Activity for the Week:** Every night this week, share with one another what you are thankful for. Pray over them together as a family. Pray with 'Grateful Hearts' for one another and how God has blessed you and how you have blessed others. Using the gratitude jars to inspire you, "Come before Him with thanksgiving".

## Monday, November 12 – Hannah - Read 1 Samuel 2:1-2.

Hannah prayed that if God would give her a child, she would give that child back to Him. Eli blessed her request and soon after she conceived a boy named Samuel, who would become the great prophet of Israel. Hannah did indeed give her son back to the Lord--she gave Samuel to Eli. Hannah's praise wasn't

(Message Notes and Meditation Moments for November 17-18, 2018 – For more, go tpwww.fumcdurango.org

just a reflection of an answer to prayer, but it came after she gave up her son. With all her heart she praised God in the after she turned over her biggest prayer request.

• In your gratitude jar, put something you are thankful for that you've received and then given back to God.

## Tuesday, November 13 – David - Read Psalm 145.

This psalm, most likely written when David was at the end of his life, praised God for his mercy, compassion, and faithfulness throughout his life.

- What situations can you be thankful for God bringing you through?
- Can you see God working in subtle ways through your life to bring you to where you are today?

## Wednesday, November 14 – Mary, Mother of Jesus - Read Luke 1:46-56.

I'm sure that when Mary found out she was pregnant with God's son, praise wasn't the first thing on her mind. I'm sure she was scared and worried about what the future would bring. But when she met with Elizabeth, who was pregnant with John the Baptist at the same time, Mary gave praise to God for this blessing.

• What are you carrying that at first might have seemed a bit fearful, but you can now be thankful for?

#### Thursday, November 15 – The Healed Leper - Read Luke 17:11-17.

Only one of the ten lepers Jesus healed returned to thank him for what he did. Luke says that he praised God in a loud voice and threw himself at Jesus' feet. This man was a Samaritan, he was used to being overlooked or rejected, but Jesus healed him.

• Is there anyone who has blessed your life that you need to thank today?

## Friday, November 16 – Jesus - Read John 6:11.

There are several examples of Jesus giving thanks in the new Testament, but in this situation he gave thanks to God for providing what they already had, before the loaves and fish were multiplied. Before he produced more, Jesus gave thanks for what they had.

• What do you have that you can give thanks for today?

## Saturday, November 17 – Read Psalm 23.

This famous Psalm shows us a deeper understanding of David's heart of thankfulness towards God. It's a comforting psalm that reminds us that no matter how dark things can get, God is always with us, as a shepherd. He guides and provides at all times.

• Maybe you're in the midst of a tough or troubling time in your life. Read this Psalm and remember all that God has provided for you even in the midst of the darkness.