

Series: Ripple Effect - A Study of Colossians

Sermon: Grateful

Speaker: Jerry Gillis

### **Daily Readings**

Monday: Colossians 1

Tuesday: Psalm 103

Wednesday: Philemon

Thursday: 2 Thessalonians 1

Friday: 2 Corinthians 9

Saturday: Hebrews 12

### **Discussion Questions**

1. How has your week been? What's gone well? What's been hard? Has God been teaching you anything specific?
2. What's something small or unexpected that you've felt grateful for this week?
3. Have someone in your group give a brief recap of Sunday's message, highlighting the primary Scripture points (Colossians 1:1-6) and the main idea of the message.
4. How did this message strengthen and/or correct your previous ideas about gratefulness? Was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you? Did you learn anything new about God or yourself this week?
5. Interact with this statement: "Gratitude is a ripple effect of grace." Spend time discussing God's grace. What is God's grace? How have you seen God's grace in your life? In our church?
6. Describe your current habits of gratitude in prayer. How could you improve in this area?
7. Paul thanks God for faithfulness, love, and hope he sees in the Colossians. Which of these qualities do you most often thank God for in others? Which one do you need to grow in personally?
8. How might practicing gratitude change your relationships - with God, with others, with your circumstances, or even with your "stuff"?
9. What action step do you need to take in response to this week's message? How can your group hold you accountable to this step?

### **Action Step**

1. **Habit of Gratitude:** each day this week, write down 3 things you're grateful for - big or small. Challenge yourself to include one person, one provision, and one attribute of God. Spend time praying prayers of gratitude to God for these things.
2. **Gratitude in Hardship:** identify one current challenge you are facing. Each day this week, write down one thing you can still thank God for, even in the midst of the challenge. Pray specifically for God to help you see His goodness, even in the face of difficulty.