

**Instructions:**

Group leaders, take some time before your gathering to look over these questions. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you as you pick 3-5 questions to discuss that pertain to your group's unique style and needs.



**Series: Grateful for...**

It has been a wild year, yet God has provided and made an impact through us in powerful ways. So let's celebrate! For all that we have been through, and for all the ways we have seen God's glory and power at work, we give thanks. Join us in a teaching series on gratitude and generosity, as we look back on how God has provided, give thanks for how God has worked through us, and look to the future with hope!

We are grateful for YOU! We are grateful for REVOLUTION! We are grateful to GOD!

**Message description:**

How can we be grateful, even in times of suffering or difficulty? Paul shows us as he writes a letter of gratitude and joy from a prison cell in Rome, that even though he is experiencing a moment of suffering, he can rejoice in God for the ways Paul has experienced grace through the partnership of the church in Philippi. Because of their support and prayers, Paul was able to witness to the very guards who held him in prison, leading others to speak the word with more boldness and without fear.

We don't have to give thanks for the very bad things that happen; but we can give thanks for the good things they reveal and the ways that God works in the mess to redeem us. If there is any lesson, any good, any strengthening of faith that comes after times of suffering, it's not because the suffering was meant for that purpose, but because Christ has the final victory in it. What the world means for evil, God can use for good.

**Key Scripture**

*Philippians 1:1-14, Romans 5:1-5*

**Questions Related to This Week's Message:**

1. What are you grateful for this week?
2. What do you think Paul means in Romans when he says we ought to boast in our suffering? What are we really "boasting in"?
3. Have you been able to practice gratitude even in times of suffering or struggle? Why or why not?
4. Share about a time where you saw God working in good ways even in the middle of a really bad thing.
5. Where do you sense God calling you to be generous with your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness in the new year?

## ***Commitment and Accountability***

As part of this series, we are asking for commitments to support the ministries and mission of our church in the new year. If you didn't get your stewardship packet in the mail, consider picking up a commitment card [below] at church.

- How are you planning to serve and give of yourself this year?
- How can we help you stay accountable to your commitment?
- Do you see opportunities for your house group to serve to support one of these areas in 2024?

### **I want to join the Revolution!**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### **My Commitment for 2024:**

I commit to joining Jesus in the revolution of transforming lives through teaching and serving through Revolution Church by offering my:

**PRAYERS** for church, staff, and mission: \_\_\_\_\_

**PRESENCE** through worship, small group, and events: \_\_\_\_\_

**SERVICE** with A/V team, Greeting/Hospitality, RevKids, Grace Kids, or other: \_\_\_\_\_

**GIFTS**, one time in the amount of: \_\_\_\_\_

**GIFTS**, recurring in the amount of: \_\_\_\_\_ (Circle one) Weekly or *Monthly*

**WITNESS** of love for my neighbors: \_\_\_\_\_

***Please return this completed card by November 26!***

### **Close in prayer:**

Pray together. Create intentional time and space to offer prayers for one another, that we might share in the comfort of Christ together and experience the Spirit's presence.

### **Consider the simple acronym of ACTS to guide your time of prayer together:**

- A- Adoration.** *Share praise reports or reasons to praise God. (Reading a psalm together can help)*
- C- Confession.** *Leave space to pray silently or individually to confess sins.*
- T- Thanksgiving.** *Share something in the group that you are thankful for this week.*
- S- Supplication, or petition.** *Share concerns and prayer requests you have.*