**BETTER TOGETHER** in 2022

November 13, 2022

Brian Hummel, Executive Pastor

**THANKS**&**GIVING**

**Giving Feels Good!**



The pathway to **gratitude** starts with your **attitude**!

How are you doing when it comes to being thankful?

Where would you put yourself on this scale?

A picture containing application

Description automatically generated

*On the way to Jerusalem he was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices, saying, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us.” When he saw them he said to them, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus answered, “Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?” And he said to him, “Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well. Luke 17:11-19*

Three things we can learn from the Samaritan Lepers:

1. Jesus is a **miracle** worker.

*And as they went they were cleansed*

*Every good and perfect gift is from above*

1. Praising Jesus with thankfulness **demonstrates** our faith.

*Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?” And he said to him, “Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well.*

1. Faith in Jesus puts us on a mission of **giving**.

*Go your way; behold, I am sending you out as lambs in the midst of wolves.  Luke 10:3*

*Being asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, he answered them, “The kingdom of God is not coming in ways that can be observed, nor will they say, ‘Look, here it is!’ or ‘There!’ for behold, the kingdom of God is in the midst of you.*

*Luke 17:20-21*

Not giving thanks **robs** God of His Glory.

Being thankful - but not giving - is **impossible**.

Giving without thankfulness is **conscription**.

Thanks and Giving feels good because it is the **sweet spot** at the intersection of thanks and giving.

Giving **hope** feels good because we have hope

*For God alone, O my soul, wait in silence, for my hope is from him. He only is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken.*

*Psalm 52:5-6*

Giving **financially** feels good because we are provided for

*Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.*

*2 Corinthians 9:7*

Giving **grace** feels good because we have received grace

…*bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.*

*Colossians 3:13*

Giving **mercy** feels good because we have received mercy.

*…bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.*

*Luke 6:35*

Giving **love** feels good because we are loved

*This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.*

*John 15:12*

We are in the sweet spot of thanks and giving when we **give** **Him** **thanks** and **share His gifts.**