OPERATION THANKS | Psalm 100 Gratitude | 11.14.10

Realizing we owe a debt of gratitude to God for his grace, his Gospel, and his gifts we must allow our lives to be a conduit of that grace and Gospel. It is through a deep abiding relationship that we can reflect upon the goodness of God and live out a life of gratitude through giving generously of what he has given us. Psalm 100 teaches us to saturate our lives with the Gospel and be grateful for all things because we have a good, loving, and caring God.

Growth Questions for 11/14 – 11/21

- 1. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find most helpful, eye-opening, troubling?
- 2. In what ways is gratitude expressed to God in this Psalm? Do these expressions and attitudes appear to be privately or publicly demonstrated?
- 3. Who does God say that He is in this Psalm? Which of His characteristics most motivates you toward gratitude?
- 4. Do Christians always experience joy in their service to God? Read Romans 12:1-2. How do these verses define our service (worship)? How might joy spring from this?
- 5. Is it hypocritical for a Christian to praise God when they don't "feel" joyful? In what ways could this Psalm instruct us in reigniting a heart of joy and gratitude?

Proclaim...Reach...Connect...Go Living on Mission

- 1. How might you counsel someone who has experienced tragedy and now doubts God's goodness?
- 2. What are you most thankful for? In what ways does your personal gratitude toward God have the potential to overflow to others? How might an attitude of gratitude be a witness to those separated from God?
- 3. Is your worship and praise as demonstrative as that described in Psalm 100? What would it look like to fully worship God in the midst of community in this way? To what degree are you uncomfortable being so public with your heart? Do you think your expression of joy is too limited or too private after reading this Psalm?

4. How does a demonstrative, grateful heart toward God affect the way you pray? Sing? Interact with other believers? Interact with those far from God?

<u>OPERATION THANKS</u> – A MicroMission project sponsored by The Church at Martinsburg to further carry out our mission. Partnering with a locally based community organization to love our city and care for families and our neighbors. Living the mission of Jesus by giving generously and practically...one frozen turkey at a time. – <u>GOAL – 200 Frozen Turkeys</u> – Drop off at the Regal Parking Lot on 11/20/10 between 8:15am and 9:15am.

<u>VOLUNTEERING AT C@M</u> - Be a part of what God is doing here at the church. Find a place to use your gifts and talents in the body. Volunteer teams include; sound, greeting, set-up, hospitality, children, community groups, communication, administrative, and C@M Kidz. For more information email <u>contact@martinsburgchurch.org</u> or call 304 596-9330.

...to proclaim the Gospel and reach those far from God.