**Thanksgiving 2023**

**Nov-18/19, 2023**

**Speaker: Tom Hughes**

**Opening:** [15 mins] We suggest you begin with an opening prayer and then a brief “catch up” or “icebreaker” before moving into the *scripture reflection* and *application questions*.

**Scripture Reflection:** [20 mins]Read **Luke 17:11-19.** After allowing the group time to reflect on the passage, ask them to share what most stands out.

**Application Questions:** [40 mins](*These questions will help you and your group dig deeper into the weekend sermon. Feel free to edit or use only those which fit your allotted time.)*

1. Tom began his “Thanksgiving” sermon by saying, *“The reality of life is that if we don’t commit to grow in gratitude, we will often drift to complaint and ungratefulness.”*
   1. On a scale of 1 to 10 (1 being “not very committed”, 10 being “very committed”) how committed are you to growing in gratitude? Share some of your “gratitude” practices.
2. Tom said, *“Calm contentment is the foundation of thanksgiving, then defined what it means to be content as ‘to be enough or have enough’”.*
   1. Are there areas of your life where you are not content with what you have? What do you think it would take for you to grow in contentment in that area?
3. Tom shared, “*Learn to be thankful for imperfect gifts and imperfect people.”*
   1. Share an example of a time when you were not grateful for someone or something less than perfect? Looking back, do you think it would have been possible to be grateful? Why or why not?
   2. Share an example of a time when you were able to be thankful or grateful for someone or something that was good enough, not perfect.
4. Tom encouraged, *“Give others a reason to be thankful to God for you.”*
   1. What are some of things you do that give others a reason to be thankful for you or being around you? How might you grow to be a person for whom others are thankful?

**Closing & Prayer**: [15 mins]

* Have each person in your group share a prayer request, and then have someone pray for them.
* Pray that CA would grow in “thankfulness & gratitude” for all God has done.
* Pray that God would continue to bless and grow CA’s 2023 “in person” attendance.