GRATITUDE (Psalm 147) HOME DISCUSSION GUIDE

Paul told the followers of Christ at Colossae, "Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful" (Colossians 3:15). He wrote to the Thessalonians, "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" (1 Thessalonians 5:18). Even in our times of genuine struggle and pain, we can know God's peace and permit it to rule our hearts. And in that peace, we'll find reminders of all that we've been given in Christ. In that, we can truly be grateful.

CONVERSATION STARTER -

Each person in the group needs to share 5 things that they are grateful to God for. You cannot state: your bible, church, home, work, or any family members.

GETTING INTO THE SCRIPTURES

Please read aloud Psalm 147.

Pastor Jason said "Gratitude celebrates our dependence on God." We tend to very independent people. How do you see yourself relying on your own strength and capabilities? What aspect of your life do you need to depend on God?

VS 4,8,9,14,16,17 – Gratitude celebrates the creator. What is a favorite spot or scene in nature that you love? God's creation reminds us of God's provision. Can you identify things that God has provided for you which you have not expressed gratitude for?

VS 2&3 – Gratitude celebrates salvation. How has Jesus set you free? What do you feel you need freedom from?

VS 10&11 – Gratitude celebrates Sabbath. Besides going to church, what are some of your regular Sabbath habits? Do you find it easy to slow down, stop, and rest in God? What makes it difficult for you to do so?

MAKING IT REAL

In his poem/prayer "Gratefulness", George Herbert asked: "Thou that hast given so much to me, give one thing more: a grateful heart." – How can the Holy Spirit help you to have a more grateful heart?