

APRIL 27, 2025

PRAYING

WITH PAUL



SERMON: Thankful Prayer ([WATCH SERMON](#)) ([SERMON NOTES](#))

SPEAKER: Pastor Kevin

CORE SCRIPTURE: [1 Thessalonians 1:2-3](#)

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

SUMMARY

In this sermon, Pastor Kevin White highlighted the importance of “Thankful Prayer” as demonstrated by Paul in 1 Thessalonians 1:2-3. Paul’s prayers were marked by persistence, proximity, and perspective. He consistently thanked God for the Thessalonians, remembered their faith, love, and hope, and saw God’s work in their lives. The sermon challenges us to adopt a similar attitude of gratitude in our prayers, focusing on the positive work God is doing in others and in our community.

SHARE

As an icebreaker, share a time when someone’s prayer or encouragement made a significant impact on your life. How did it affect your faith journey?

READ

Read 1 Thessalonians 1:2-3 out loud together.

DISCUSS

Feel free to pick/choose what is most helpful for you. Remember the goal is to have rich, relational, authentic, Jesus-centered discussions.

1. What most stood out to you about the sermon?
2. Pastor Kevin mentioned the persistence of Paul’s prayers. How can we cultivate a habit of consistent and thankful prayer in our daily lives?
3. Reflect on the phrase “your work produced by faith, your labour prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope.” (1 Thess 1:3) How is each of these pieces of evidence a reflection of Christ? How does that inform our actions and prayers?
4. How does remembering the positive work God is doing in others change your perspective

towards them? Can you think of someone you need to remember differently?

5. In what ways can we, as a small group, support each other in prayer, focusing on gratitude and the work God is doing among us?
6. Pastor Kevin shared examples of faith, love, and hope within the Cornerstone community. How have you seen these qualities in action in our church or your personal life?
7. How does the hope in our Lord Jesus Christ inspire you to endure through challenging times?

NEXT STEPS:

Identify three people in your life where you see God working. Commit to praying for them with gratitude this week and consider reaching out to encourage them.

Attend the upcoming Prayer and Re-envisioning meeting on May 24 to join in discerning God's direction for our church.

PRAY

Spend time in group prayer, thanking God for the people in your lives and the work He is doing in and through them. Pray for a spirit of gratitude and persistence in your prayer life.

May the Lord help us to pray with persistence, proximity, and perspective, always remembering the work of faith, love, and hope in our community.