



Week 3 - The Posture of Thanksgiving and Gratefulness

15th November 2015

1. Jn 15:1-11 and Heb 13:15 If we truly abide in Christ like a branch abides in the vine we will produce fruit that has His character (after His kind or seed).
2. Matt 6:9-13 Intimacy and the Father's honour, will, kingdom and glory are the main focus of Jesus' teaching on prayer.
3. Acts 16:22-34 Rejoicing and thanksgiving is the food and fruit of intimacy. It's just loving Him for who He is with no strings attached. It is Him focussed not me focussed.
4. Heb 12:1-3 Rejoicing and thanksgiving releases sight of what God is working in and around us which is where faith is formed and built.
5. Ps 46:4,5 Rejoicing and thanksgiving is the language of the Holy Spirit; like a fire constantly igniting hope and like the bubbling up of the wellspring of life bringing gladness.

Questions

1. In reading Jn 15:1-11 and Heb 13:15 what is Holy Spirit speaking to you about your current state of abiding or fruit bearing? What is the predominant fruit falling from your lips?
2. What is one thing that strikes you personally from Jesus' teaching on prayer in Matt 6: 9-13?
3. Paul and Silas responded to beatings and persecution with songs and prayer. How do you respond to the storms of life? Is your life characterized by thankfulness and praise?
4. How does our spiritual sight affect how we travel through situations? See Christ's example Heb 12:1-3
5. Ps 46:4-5 talks of the Holy Spirit bringing joy to the people of God and their stability amidst turmoil. Have you experienced this? Share with each other.

