



WEEKLY STUDY

Week of Thanksgiving

This week Pastor Mark shared the repeated phrase of scripture, “All I have is yours.” It’s a challenge to speak these words to God when we hold so dearly to what is ours. But because of his grace, God says it first to us. This week many people at Providence made their financial commitment to the ministries of the church for 2022. Whatever we commit is really a way of saying to God—All I have is yours.

If you are studying with your Providence Small Group, you can share from daily readings as well as the additional question at the bottom of this guide. If you would like to get connected to a Providence Small Group visit prov.church/smallgroups.

Find a time each day to read the passage of scripture, follow the daily prayer prompt, and then pray this or your own prayer.

*God, All I have is yours.
Show me what to do,
show me how to live as a follower of Jesus.
Amen.*

DAILY STUDY

MONDAY: JOHN 17.6-11

“I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word.⁷ Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you.⁸ For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me.⁹ I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours.¹⁰ All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them.¹¹ I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one.

- This is a portion of a prayer that Jesus prayed to God the Father before Jesus was given up and killed on a cross. Jesus was concerned with his disciples in this portion of the prayer and wanted to highlight the mutual nature of “gift” between the Son and Father. The Father gave the disciples to Jesus and Jesus is placing them right back in the hands of the Father. In a sense, the lives of those He poured himself into were all He had in this world. How do you resonate with that idea? How do relationships factor into what you have in this world?

- Thank God for those He has given you to give and receive from in this life of following Jesus.

TUESDAY: LUKE 19.8-10

Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount."

⁹ Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. ¹⁰ For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

- Zacchaeus had a dramatic encounter with Jesus. He knew enough about Jesus to climb a tree in order to see him. And Jesus responded to his anticipation by engaging with him. The encounter at Zacchaeus' house changed the tax collector and led him to restore that which he had destroyed. Have you had a turning point where you felt you needed to set things right with those you had wronged?
- Pray for Jesus to see you as you truly are and then listen to his words for you.

WEDNESDAY: LUKE 15.29-32

[The older son said] 'Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!'

³¹ "My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. ³² But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'"

- The older son in Luke 15 experienced an unexpected grace in response to his complaints. He received a reminder that everything the father has belongs to him. What we do with that promise seems to really matter. Will we throw parties for lost people, or keep it all to ourselves?
- Pray that lost people would feel celebrated by a God who loves them.

THURSDAY: EZEKIEL 37.27-28

And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws. ²⁸ Then you will live in the land I gave your ancestors; you will be my people, and I will be your God.

- The promise between God and his people is that we belong to each other. It is a gift that the Creator of the universe would be in relationship with His creation. We now know that we belong to God. In the days of the prophet Ezekiel, God's people were living far away from the land that God had given them. God used this time of exile as a way to cleanse and reset the hearts of his people. Have you ever felt far away from the land (and life) God has prepared for you?
- Pray to God for a return home to Him. Say to God, "You are my God, and I am one of your people."

FRIDAY: PHILIPPIANS 4.12-13

I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. ¹³ I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

- Paul became aware of the difference between needing and having. He understood that his current situation did not define his potential. Sometimes we miss the difference between what we possess

and what we belong to. We can have nothing and still belong to God. We can have all things and still belong to God.

- *Pray for a deep contentment in every situation and for confidence in Jesus' strength.*

SATURDAY: PSALM 44.4-8

*You are my King and my God,
who decrees victories for Jacob.*

⁵ *Through you we push back our enemies;
through your name we trample our foes.*

⁶ *I put no trust in my bow,
my sword does not bring me victory;*

⁷ *but you give us victory over our enemies,
you put our adversaries to shame.*

⁸ *In God we make our boast all day long,
and we will praise your name forever.*

- We make our boast in God. God pushes back our enemies as we place our trust in Him. It is important that we keep Jesus as the King of our lives. Our trust is in His ability to bring victory and not in our devices. On this day, simply boast in Jesus everywhere you go.
- *Pray verse 8 throughout the day, "In God I make my boast all day long, and I will praise your name forever."*

- See reverse for Small Group Discussion -

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION

Check out our Providence Thanksgiving resources and participate as a small group.

What have you learned about gratitude this year?

What new insights or activities from the Gratitude Experience surprised you?

prov.church/thanksgiving