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## I Thank My God for Our Church

October 8, 2023

The past five weeks addressed the five gauges of our lives—physical, relational, financial, emotional, and spiritual. How are each of these gauges affected by gratitude?

### Read 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Who is a grateful person you know? What impresses you about that person's life?

As a friend/spouse/parent/employee/etc., are there steps you can take to be more grateful and less critical? For example, Pastor Ted said that putting the phone/camera away when visiting another church helped him be less critical.

### Read 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

You may have seen statements similar to, *"If the Apostle Paul was alive today, the church in America would get a letter."* Given Paul's introduction in 1 Corinthians, what are some of the positive characteristics of the church in America?

Pastor Ted gave twelve reasons why he thanks God for our church. Which of these characteristics of WHFC are you most grateful? Are there others? Choose a few of the reasons below, read the supporting scripture and discuss.

1. You expect strong biblical theology and teaching. **Read 2 Timothy 4:3.**
2. You thrive on fellowship, not hype. **Read Acts 2:42.**
3. You support a plurality of leaders. **Read Titus 1:5.**
4. You are generous to meet the needs of church members. **Read Acts 2:45.**
5. You are generous with support for ministries in town and missions around the world. **Read Philippians 4:14-16.**
6. You are grateful. **Read Colossians 3:15.**
7. Your gratitude for the Lord is evident when you worship. **Read Colossians 3:16.**
8. You invite your family and friends.
9. You warmly welcome our guests.
10. You serve faithfully.
11. You let us be creative.
12. You love to laugh.