

Thank Offering

1 Chronicles 16:8-36

When David returned the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem he was filled with a sense of thanksgiving, each Israelite was given gifts (16:3) and then he committed this psalm of thanksgiving (16:7).



Getting Started (Let the group discuss one or more of these questions)

Let the group start by talking about at least one of the two questions below.

1. What are some of your family's thanksgiving traditions? Which do you like the most? The least?
2. What story would you use to illustrate the attitude of gratitude and spirit of thanksgiving?

In the Word (Attempting to address each of the questions below would probably prove counter-productive in the time allotted to a Community Group. Why not focus on a few questions and consider how they can be applied to life?)

1 Chronicles 16:8-36

1. What does it mean to "make known among the nations what he has done"? How does this relate to the idea of thanksgiving?
2. Name some of the "wonderful acts" you think David and his initial audience would have listed.
3. What is the significance of the covenant to Israel? Why mention that they were "few in number"?
4. When had Israel wandered from "one kingdom to another"? Can you think of more than one time in their history when this happened?
5. How does David compare the LORD to the gods of other nations? What does he call on other nations to do? What does he call upon the world to do?
6. Why give thanks to the LORD? What does that mean?
7. What promise is found in the declaration, "His love endures forever"?

Application

1. For what do Christians have to be thankful? How is this similar to Israel? Different?
2. Look at 16:35-36. From what do Christians ask God to save them? What assurance do we have of this? What is the proper response to God's salvation?
3. How can Christians praise God? How did David show his thankfulness and praise?
4. How can we, as a group, express our thankfulness to God?