

# think·thanks

## LESSON 3 // WHEN YOU LOSE YOUR PRAISE—PART 2

**Big Idea:** Thanksgiving and praise go together. You can't praise God without giving thanks, and to truly be a thankful person, you must become a person of praise.

One of the designs of the devil is to rob us of thanksgiving and praise. When this happens, as we saw in our last lesson, we are nagged by discontentment, tortured by envy and jealousy, and vulnerable to materialism. When you lose your praise, you're also set up to become a complainer and a drag on your relationships, less likely to be generous and subjected to spiritual dryness.

Don't lose your praise! Make sure you give God the thanks and praise He deserves and see what a difference it will make in your life.

**Numbers 14:26-30 (NLT)** *Then the Lord said to Moses and Aaron, <sup>27</sup>"How long must I put up with this wicked community and its complaints about me? Yes, I have heard the complaints the Israelites are making against me. <sup>28</sup> Now tell them this: 'As surely as I live, declares the Lord, I will do to you the very things I heard you say. <sup>29</sup> You will all drop dead in this wilderness! Because you complained against me, every one of you who is twenty years old or older and was included in the registration will die. <sup>30</sup> You will not enter and occupy the land I swore to give you. The only exceptions will be Caleb son of Jephunneh and Joshua son of Nun.*

### Start Talking:

- When you were a kid, what was the most common thing that you complained about? Why?
- As an adult, what are you most often outwardly thankful for?

### Start Thinking:

- This weekend, Pastor Dale shared that Satan wants to rob us of our thanksgiving and praise. Why do you think this is a strategic target in our lives?
- **Read Psalm 69:30, 100:4 & Hebrews 13:15.** What impact does thankfulness have on our thoughts and attitudes? Why do you believe the Bible consistently encourages us to offer praise and thanksgiving?
- **When you lose your praise you're set-up to become a complainer.** What are some ways that you can justify your complaints during this season? What do you do to move back towards praise when you are complaining?
- **Read Acts 20:35.** Why is generosity significant in the life of a Christian? How would you explain to someone the connection between thankfulness and generosity?
- Has complaining affected your relationships? If so, how? What steps can you take to ensure that you live thankfully versus consistently complaining?

### Start Praying:

Ask your group members if they struggle with complaining and if so, in what areas. Pray boldly for one another that during this challenging season your group would remain thankful and joyful.

### Start Doing:

- Invite those in your group to continue to grow in generosity. Share the opportunities that are available at our church through our outreach efforts. Support can be offered by volunteering, donating products, or offering financial support (for those that are able). For more information visit: <https://church-redeemer.org/ministries/outreach/covid-19>