

God Reigns: A Thankful People



Review: God Reigns is the fourth in our series of nine themes within the Mission of God. In God Reigns we look at God's relationship with the freed people of Israel as they prepare to enter the land of his covenant promise. We focus on Deuteronomy which speaks of what God has done and how he wants his people to live: a kind of blueprint for living in God's kingdom. Last week we considered being united in commitment, and this week we think about how we live thankful lives in response to all God has done for us.



Discuss:

- What reasons do we have to be thankful?
 - share one reason you feel thankful in your own life
 - share one reason you feel thankful for Jesus
- What is our 'rhythm of thankfulness'? On what occasions do we find ourselves giving thanks? Think about the following situations (and any others), and discuss how they are or might become a greater focus for thanksgiving:
 - daily prayer; holy communion; major festivals (Easter, Christmas, Pentecost etc); times together as a small group
- Deuteronomy 16:16-17 calls on us to respond in thankfulness by giving, proportionately to the blessings we have received. How does this challenge the modern view of 'our' money? What challenges does it present for us?



Pray: that God might grow in us a heart which is instinctively thankful to him, and recognises that we are the beneficiaries of undeserved grace. That we will find ways of reflecting this in regular, daily prayer and not just when things are going well.