

## **BCC Connection Group Questions: November 26, 2023 (Week 12) | Sermon Series: "Core Culture"**

**READ:** Acts 2:41-47, Acts 20:34-35, 2 Corinthians 9:6-15, Galatians 6:7-9, Matthew 6:21, Psalm 103:1-5,

Proverbs 11:25, Philemon 1:4-7

**OPEN:**

- Briefly share how your Thanksgiving went for you last week.
- How have you experienced and witnessed God move in your life that brings you to an attitude of thanksgiving, joy, and generosity?

**BIG IDEA:**

Core Christian Culture is built on giving that:

- 1) Rewards (2 Corinthians 9:6,10-11)
- 2) Reflects (2 Corinthians 9:7)
- 3) Rejuvenates (2 Corinthians 9:11-15, Proverbs 11:25)

**DIG:**

\*Read: Acts 2:41-47

- Luke writes in the Book of Acts that the group of believers met regularly, took Communion together, and
- share their meals with, "great joy and thankfulness praising God." What is the Core Culture that you see taking place in this passage?
- The Biblical word for "Joy" means to have "wild joy, ecstatic delight, exultation, and exhilaration" ...what caused this joy for the believers in Acts 2 and what causes this joy in you?
- The Biblical word for "Thankfulness" means a heart of simplicity and sincerity. It can also mean 'PHELOTES' meaning "smoothness, without rocks, unencumbered." How does THANKSGIVING impact the heart, mind, and character?
- How do "Joy" and "Thanksgiving" lead believers to live out of intentionality in worship, service, and love to others and God?
- The heart is the affective center of our being and the capacity of moral preference. This is what makes us tick as believers in Christ. What are the things that make you tick from your heart?

- What are some of the things God has placed on your heart that make you tick?
- 2 Cor.9:6, “This is the point: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.” What does this passage mean for a person of faith? (Teacher’s Note: We get out of it what we put into it. We get as much of God as we desire and want. It takes faith!)
- How does giving increase our capacity to be generous so that we can produce more thanksgiving to God?
- 2 Corinthians 9:7 says that, “Each one must give as he has decided in his heart...” How does giving come from your heart or “intention center?” How does a believer make the best decision or prioritize how one gives?
- Discuss Matthew 6:21 as a group. What is it that we treasure? How does it connect us to the heart of God?
- How does giving rejuvenate us we give unto the Lord and others? Read Proverbs 11:25.

#### REFLECT:

- Why is giving considered to be an act of worship?
- What has the Holy Spirit revealed to you today that you can apply to your faith?

#### VISION OPPS:

- **Leadership Connection** – Saturday, December 2, 9-11:30 am at WO Campus; lunch to follow. Register at [bridgecitypgh.com/events](http://bridgecitypgh.com/events)  
This time is for all leaders, and anyone who is interested in becoming a leader. Pastor Rick will be sharing vision, encouragement and practical tips for leading teams and groups; lunch will follow. Childcare is available – must register child(ren) by Friday.
- **Child Dedications** – We will be dedicating children on Sunday, December 17; if you would like to dedicate your child, please register online at [bridgecitypgh.com/childdedication](http://bridgecitypgh.com/childdedication) or stop by the Connection Point
- **BC Students Christmas party** – December 20<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 pm at WO
- **BH, MV, NB Christmas Candlelight worship experience** –December 23<sup>rd</sup> | 6pm
- **WO Candlelight** – Dec 23<sup>rd</sup> | 4pm, 6pm, 8pm