"For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised." ( 2 Cor 5:14-15, ESV)

# Praise and Give Thanks to the Lord - Week One

## **KEY SCRIPTURE**: A verse to memorize and meditate on this week.

"Oh give thanks to the Lord; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples!" (Psalm 105:1, ESV)

## **TAKING IT FURTHER:** A section of scripture to ponder in depth.

"And when they had inflicted many blows upon them, they threw them into prison, ordering the jailer to keep them safely. Having received this order, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks. About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken. And immediately all the doors were opened, and everyone's bonds were unfastened. When the jailer woke and saw that the prison doors were open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul cried with a loud voice, 'Do not harm yourself, for we are all here.' And the jailer called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas. Then he brought them out and said, 'Sirs, what must I do to be saved?' And they said, 'Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.'" (Acts 16:23-31, ESV)

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## **QUESTIONS:** Considerations to renew your mind and move you to action.

- What stands out in this Scripture?
- What does this Scripture teach us about God and people?
- What might God might be calling you to repent of and change in your life?
- How can you put into action what God has taught you in this Scripture?

## **HOW I WILL:** Ways to practice this discipline.

- Pray aloud a Psalm each day that has the word "praise" in it.
- List three things God has done for you and tell someone about how God gave you these things.

This week do one of the above or a similar action that fits in your settings.

## **PRAYER:** Words to turn your heart to God and ask for His blessing.

O holy and most merciful God, You have taught us the way of Your commandments. We implore You to pour out Your grace into our hearts. Cause it to bear fruit in us that, being ever mindful of Your mercies and Your laws, we may always be directed to Your will and daily increase in love toward You and one another. Enable us to resist all evil and to live a godly life. Help us to follow the example of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and to walk in His steps until we shall possess the kingdom that has been prepared for us in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

"What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—
practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you."
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