RNC

Appreciation

- "Now I praise you because you always remember me and keep the traditions/teachings just as I delivered them to you."
 1 Corinthians 11:2 HCSB
- Appreciation expressing thanks, praise You did a great job! Thank you for your help. **Opposite - criticism** (a remark or comment that expresses disapproval of someone or something)

- Ephesians 5:15-21

- "First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is proclaimed in all the world." Romans 1:8 ESV
- "You also must help us by prayer, so that many will give thanks on our behalf for the blessing granted us through the prayers of many." 2 Corinthians 1:11 ESV
- "But we ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the firstfruits to be saved, through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth." 2 Thessalonians 2:13 ESV
- "Greet Prisca and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus, who risked their necks for my life, to whom not only I give thanks but all the churches of the Gentiles give thanks as well." Romans 16:3-4 ESV
- The need of appreciation is met by expressing thanks, praise, or commendation, particularly in recognition of someone's accomplishments or efforts.

- Jesus Himself throughout His earthly ministry expressed appreciation for various individuals:
 - The Gentile centurion "When Jesus heard these things, he marveled at him, and turning to the crowd that followed him, said, "I tell you, not even in Israel have I found such faith.""
 Luke 7:9 ESV
 - The Generous Widow "And he sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the offering box. Many rich people put in large sums. And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which make a penny. And he called his disciples to him and said to them, "Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box. For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."" Mark 12:41-44 ESV
 - The woman who anointed Him with costly perfume "But Jesus said, "Leave her alone. Why do you trouble her? She has done a beautiful thing to me." Mark 14:6 ESV people who saw this woman pour this expensive oil on Jesus' head scolded her for it because they said she should have sold it and given money for the poor
 - God promised that He will show appreciation to those who are faithful to Him:
 - "knowing that whatever good anyone does, this he will receive back from the Lord, whether he is a bondservant or is free." Ephesians 6:8 ESV
 - "Henceforth there is laid up for me <u>the crown of</u> <u>righteousness</u>, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will

award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing." **2 Timothy 4:8 ESV**

- Appreciation begins in one's heart to the Lord

- Psalm 100
 - "Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing! Know that the Lord, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name! For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations." Psalms 100:1-5 ESV
- Our lives are to be a daily expression of appreciation for what God has done for us.
- Luke 17:11-19, Are you one of the 9 today? Or is your heart filled with the reality of what Jesus has done for you?
- Appreciation flows from one's heart to one another.
- Appreciation transforms relationships
- Practical ways to express appreciation:
 - Make it a point to praise people verbally.
 - Focus on right behavior, not wrong behavior.
 - Generously give tokens of appreciation.