



# Curriculum



**SAMPLE**  
***Thanksgiving***

Thanks-living

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### **LEARN: Overview**

Biblical Business Training (“BBT”) equips people to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ and empowers leaders in a small-group Bible study setting to apply Biblical principles at work. Our mission is [Faith for Work](#) – and our vision is [Leadership for Life!](#)

To find out more, visit [www.B-B-T.org](http://www.B-B-T.org).



### **Curriculum: The BBT 1-2-3™ Format**

BBT's curriculum is Biblically-based and applicable the day you study it. The *BBT 1-2-3™* format enables the group to consistently fit a meeting into a busy work week (e.g. before work or over a lunch hour, etc.). The Agenda and Recap are sent through Go!Connect to help group members prepare and continue discussion for accountability.



**Agenda** – Introduces applicable Biblical principles



**Group Leader Guide** – Facilitates discussion and allows for shared leadership



**Recap** – Encourages community and application



### **LIVE: Apply Biblical principles at work**

Small group discussion begins typically with prayer, reading the Agenda together for context, then reading scripture and discussing the included questions. Questions are chosen to help the members in the study apply the scripture to their workplace and lives through group discussion. The Application Question is for group application and accountability between meetings.

#### **Sample discussion questions:**

1. Read Colossians 3:23. Discuss how this view of work may change your perspective?

Application Question: How can this group help you live out your faith at work?



### **LEAD: Start a small-group Bible study**

The Lead question is for holistic life application at work, home, church, and in the community.

#### **Sample lead question:**

Ask Yourself: How will I change the way I lead at work? At home? In my community? At my church? Start leading today!

#### **Learn more at:**

Curriculum Samples: <https://b-b-t.org/curriculum/>

Contact a Coach: <https://b-b-t.org/coaching/>

Start Leading: <https://b-b-t.org/startleading/>

Thanks-living

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PRAYERS

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## LEARN

**Thankfulness**

As the Thanksgiving holiday approaches, most people are reminded of what they are thankful for – family, work, health, blessings from God, etc. But why do we only reflect on it during this holiday? Shouldn't we be thankful every day for the gifts of our life? Christians especially should live in a constant state of giving thanks. The gift of God's grace and mercy freely given to those who believe is reason enough to be thankful each and every day.

In [Psalm 138](#), David expresses his thanks for God's faithfulness, unfailing love, promises, preservation of life, and purpose for us. Is it enough to just give to give thanks, or should our lives reflect our thankfulness? How can we make the shift from Thanksgiving into Thanks-living?

**What is Thanks-living?**

Thanks-living is the daily act of showing gratitude to and for the Lord for all that He has done. As [Dr. Jeff Schreve](#), Senior Pastor of First Baptist Church in Texarkana, Texas says in his [Crosswalk.com](#) article entitled "[The Joy of Thanks-Living – Thanksgiving Devotional](#)", "Thanks-living opens the door for God to work."

Serving others is a great way to start Thanks-living. Sharing what you have been given will show thanks to the Lord for His blessing on your life and help others see God's Kingdom in your sacrifice. You may be the only reflection of God someone sees today... or ever.

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## LIVE

**Discussion questions:** Read the text and scriptures below, and prepare to answer the questions.

1. Read Psalm 138. What things for which David gives thanks most resonates with you and why?
2. Read Ephesians 2:8-10. What is the gift of God that Paul is describing? How should we respond to this gift at work, at home, in our communities and neighborhoods?
3. Share how this group has been a blessing to you. BBT's motto is "Faith for Work – Leadership for Life." How has your behavior at work and your leadership been influenced by those around the table? Could your life be described as Thanks-living?
4. Read Philippians 1:3-11. Paul's prayer gives thanks and encourages the church in Philippi. How should this influence your prayers, especially when you pray aloud for others?

**Application Question:** How will you move from Thanksgiving into Thanks-living?

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## PRAYERS

**Prayer Requests & Closing Prayer**

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Thanks-living



PRAYERS

Opening Prayer & Prayer Requests



LEARN

Before you begin, read the AGENDA LEARN introduction together and discuss Dr. Jeff Schreve’s article, [“The Joy of Thanks-Living – Thanksgiving Devotional”](#)



LIVE

Discussion Questions: Have someone read each Bible verse aloud and then ask the corresponding question.

1) **Read Psalm 138. What things for which David gives thanks most resonates with you and why?**



David gives thanks for many things including God’s love, faithfulness, wisdom, etc.



The first thing for which David gives thanks is “steadfast love”. “Steadfast love” is translated from the Hebrew word “hesed.” This word refers to a loyal, faithful love – the basis of God’s covenant commitment to us. Others that your group may list are: God’s faithfulness (v. 2), His answers (v. 3), increased soul strength (v. 3), wisdom/words (v. 4), regard for the lowly (v. 6), preservation of my life/deliverance of me (v. 7), His purpose for me (v. 8).



You may want to also read Psalm 136 together, taking turns around the table. This too is a Psalm of giving thanks.

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2) **Ephesians 2:8-10. What is the gift of God that Paul is describing? How should we respond to this gift at work, at home, in our communities, and neighborhoods?**



This gift of God is faith in Christ.



Salvation through Christ is made possible by God’s grace. The faith that allows us to believe in Christ as our Lord and savior is a gift, which is paid for by Christ’s death and resurrection. We cannot and should not attempt to add anything to this gift, because it is already perfectly sufficient. We should attempt to “walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you were called...” Ephesians 4:1-7, at work (Eph. 6:5-9), in community (Eph. 5:1-20), in marriage (Eph. 5:21-33), as children/parents (Eph. 6:1-4).

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Thanks-living

- 3) **Share how this group has been a blessing to you. BBT’s motto is... “Faith for Work – Leadership for Life.” How has your behavior at work, and your leadership been influenced by those around the table? Could your life be described as thanks-living?**



At BBT, we are always encouraged by testimonies from groups. Please be listening for testimonies that would encourage others to join BBT or lead a group. Pass these along to a BBT leadership coach.

Notes:

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- 4) **Read Philippians 1:3-11. Paul’s prayer gives thanks and encourages the church in Philippi. How should this influence your prayers, especially when you pray aloud for others?**



Do not be defined by the circumstances you are in but by who God is.



Remember Paul is in PRISON, and he is writing to Philippian believers who are brokenhearted by their leader’s (Paul’s) imprisonment! Regardless, Paul’s joy for the gospel of Christ was not defined by his circumstances, nor would Paul allow his prayer for the Philippian believers to be defined by his or their circumstances. JOY related words occur 20 times in the letter from Paul. As Christians, we are to live in a state of giving thanks.

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Application Question: How will you move from Thanksgiving to Thanks-living?

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PRAYERS

Prayer Requests & Closing Prayer

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LEAD

**Ask yourself: What keeps me from being thankful and how can I instead live out a spirit of thankfulness at work, at home, at church, in my community?** Ask your group to pray about serving together in an expression of “Thanks-living!”

PLEASE NOTE: There is a link to a brief survey from BBT on the Recap. Please be sure to take it and encourage your participants to do so as well. Thank you.



## PRAYERS

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## LEARN

David thanks God for His love, loyalty, and faithfulness. God gives us the gift of faith. God blesses us through Christian community. We can give thanks for the Gospel regardless of our circumstances.

Scripture references for this study: Psalm 138, Ephesians 2:8-10, Philippians 1:3-11



## LIVE

- Thanks-living for God's love
- Thanks-living for the blessings in your life
- Thanks-living for Christ even in the darkness

Application Question: How will you move from Thanksgiving to Thanks-living?



## LEAD

**Ask yourself: What keeps me from being thankful and how can I instead live out a spirit of thankfulness at work, at home, at church, in my community?** Ask your group to pray about serving together in an expression of "Thanks-living!"

**Please complete this brief survey so BBT can better understand if they are providing you with the best service and resources available for applying Biblical principles at work. Thank you!**

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/102016>