

grateful.

# 1 | Why Gratitude is Hard.

PHILIPPIANS 4:4-13

Sunday, June 14, 2026 | Wawasee Bible | Milford, Indiana | Pastor Josh Weiland

Gratitude is hard because it requires **OBEDIENCE** before it's felt, (v. 4-5a)

**always commanded** John 1:14; Titus 2:11; 1 John 4:9

**always possible** Eph 2:8-9; Rom 4:4-5; Rom 11:6; Gal 2:16


we miss God's **NEARNESS**, (v. 5b-7)

**be thankful: God is near...** John 3:5; Ezek 36:25-26; 2 Cor 5:17; 1 Cor 6:11

 **...so is his peace** Matt 28:19; Acts 2:38; Col 2:11-12; 1 Pet 3:21

and we focus on our **CIRCUMSTANCES**. (v. 8-13)

**what are you thinking?** Rom 3:23-24; Rom 5:1; 2 Cor 5:21; Phil 3:9

 **where are you looking?** Rom 8:17; Gal 3:29; Gal 4:7; John 17:3



## Summer Prayer Focus

This summer, let's be praying together for other churches in our community and in our Great Lakes District family.

### Neighboring Church: **Wawasee Heights**

Pray this week for the ministry and people of Wawasee Heights Church in Syracuse and Pastor Pat Park.

### Great Lakes District (EFCA) Sister Church: **Crossroads Church in Plymouth**

Pray this week for the ministry and people of Crossroads Church in Plymouth, Indiana and Pastor Scott Yoder.

*Crossroads is a sister church of Wawasee Bible and part of the Great Lakes District of the Evangelical Free Church of America.*



## Discovery Bible Reading

*A Simple, Effective Way to Read & Know Scripture*

**What is this?** – Normally this section includes questions and a study for our **Life Groups**. If you're interested in joining one, they will relaunch in September. Let us know on a Connect Card (pew rack or in the **Church Center App**), or contact the church office.

Instead of our normal study guide, this summer we're encouraging you to engage the skill of **Discovery Bible Reading**. Follow the instructions below with 1 or more other people, and see what God reveals to you from his Word as you read and study it together!

### What is Discovery Bible Reading?

**Discovery Bible Reading** (DBR) is a participatory approach to studying Scripture that emphasises communal engagement and personal discovery.

Unlike traditional methods of Bible study, DBR prioritizes group discussion and reflection, allowing participants to explore the text together in a collaborative environment.

This approach encourages individuals to ask questions, share insights, and delve deeper into the meaning of the passages they encounter. By actively involving *everyone* in the group, DBR fosters a sense of ownership and connection to the Word of God, empowering participants to apply its teachings to their own lives and share with friends, family, and colleagues!

**Turn to the Back Panel to see how it works...**

At Wawasee, each of us is growing to increasingly live out these four roles as we follow Jesus together.



### Secure Son/Daughter

I live each day increasingly confident in being a loved child of God—resting in grace, not striving to achieve approval.



### Courageous Connector

I cultivate honest relationships that cross barriers and create belonging—even before belief.



### Ready Storyteller

I live each day with a sense of sentness, ready to reveal my story and God's story.



### Legacy Builder

Because of Jesus, I multiply what has been given to me by spiritually investing in others for kingdom impact.

## Word Find in the **Word**

Find the words from a passage related to this week's message.

### Word Find for Philippians 4:4-8 (CSB)

Find the words **bolded** below.

<sup>4</sup> **Rejoice** in the **Lord** always. I will say it **again: Rejoice!** <sup>5</sup> Let your **graciousness** be **known** to **everyone**. The **Lord** is near. <sup>6</sup> Don't **worry** about **anything**, but in **everything**, through **prayer** and **petition** with **thanksgiving**, **present** your **requests** to God. <sup>7</sup> And the **peace** of God,

which **surpasses** all **understanding**, will **guard** your **hearts** and **minds** in **Christ Jesus**. <sup>8</sup> **Finally** **brothers** and **sisters**, whatever is **true**, whatever is **honorable**, whatever is **just**, whatever is **pure**, whatever is **lovely**, whatever is **commendable**—if **there** is any moral excellence and if **there** is **anything** praiseworthy—dwell on these things.

J G A H E A R T S J E S U S W  
R E J O I C E Y K N O W N V R  
M F I N A L L Y G U A R D L G  
M V C O M M E N D A B L E O D  
I S U R P A S S E S W O R R Y  
N G R A C I O U S N E S S D E  
D R E B E G P M R H V N T I R  
S E R L V M P E A C E O A Y C  
P Q B E E P R A Y E R A N F J  
P U R E R L O V E L Y G D H U  
A E O K Y C H R I S T A I P S  
L S T I O U A N Y T H I N G T  
W T H A N K S G I V I N G A H  
A S E P E T I T I O N G P B E  
Y P R E S E N T G C G V W V R  
S I S T E R S G V R U T R U E



## How it Works:

**Discovery Bible Reading** is a simple effective reading plan—*whatever* your knowledge or experience of Jesus.

1. **Gather friends** to read passages of Scripture and stories of Jesus together (the Gospel of Mark is a good start, or use the text from this week's sermon).
2. As you begin, **one person prays** this simple prayer or one like it: *"Dear God, please guide us. Thank You."*
3. **Read the Scripture for that day outloud.** (Either a story of Jesus from the Gospels, or this week's sermon passage.)
4. Have **someone else** read the same Scripture again, outloud.
5. **Ask a third person to retell the story or Scripture passage** again, but rather than read it, they should retell it in their own words.
6. Next, you will **discuss the Scripture**, using these five questions in order:

1. What is new to you?
2. What surprises you?
3. What don't you understand?
4. What will you obey or apply?
5. What will you share with someone this week?

7. After your discussion, **plan when you will meet and read again.** Then **pray for each other.** You can end by praying something simple like this:

*"Dear God, Thank you for your Word. Help us to follow you. Amen."*

- TIPS:**
1. If you don't understand something, don't argue—you will read more!
  2. Invite other people to join you.

## When You Meet to Read Again:

### You could ask:

*Who have you met or caught up with? What two things did you learn?*

### Review:

*How did we do applying the insights? How did we do sharing?*

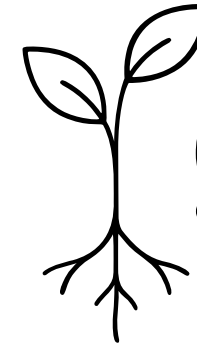
### Then continue to the next story!



Wawasee Bible is part of the Evangelical Free Church of America. View our Statement of Faith online at [wawaseebible.com/beliefs](http://wawaseebible.com/beliefs). Learn more about the EFCA at [efca.org](http://efca.org).

## Wawasee Community Bible Church

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Sunday, June 14, 2026

## PART 1

# Why Gratitude is Hard.

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**We're Glad You're Here Today!**



Scan QR code for our **App** with **Bulletin, Connect Card, & more.**

<https://wawasee.today>