

How Can I Be Thankful, When I Don't Feel Thankful?

Sunday, November 25, 2018

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A Challenging Year ...

Big Idea: Being thankful is more a _____ than a feeling.

Examples: Job 1:20-21; Habakkuk 3:17-19; 1 Thess. 5:16-18

Being thankful is a mindset based upon our _____ that God is _____ regardless of our feelings.

Three Truths to Enable Us to Be Thankful:

1. The _____ of eternity far outweighs temporary pain and suffering. (2 Cor. 4:16-18)

Heaven is ...

2. Jesus has _____ our pain and will take us _____ it. (Heb. 4:14-16)

3. We can _____ God's plan even when we don't always understand it. (Heb. 11:36-40)

Next Steps:

1. Write a letter to God and tell Him how you are feeling about being thankful or not.
2. Join a Grief Share or a Community Group.
3. Make a list of all the things for which you are thankful beginning with what you have to look forward to in eternity.

Discussion Questions:

1. What have been some of the greatest challenges that you have faced in 2018?
2. What have been some of the greatest blessings that you have experienced in 2018?
3. How easy has it been to be thankful for the challenges?
4. What do you look forward to most in heaven?
5. Describe what it means to you to know that Jesus can empathize with the challenges that you have faced or are facing.
6. Describe how it feels to you to know that you may not fully understand why you have experienced the challenges of your life until you are in heaven.
7. Share your thoughts with your community group or a trusted friend on being thankful even when you don't feel thankful.

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