

Being Thankful When Life is Hard

November 19, 2006

God's will for me:

- **Give thanks to the Lord and proclaim his greatness. Let the whole world know what he has done.** 1 Chronicles chapter 16 verse 8 (321)
- **Give thanks to the Lord for he is good! His faithful love endures forever.**
1 Chronicles chapter 16 verse 34 (322)
- **It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to the most high.** Psalm 92 verse 1 (456)
- **Give thanks for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.**
Ephesians chapter 5 verse 20 (898)

The one thing keeping me from being thankful today is _____

What does God want me to learn from this?

1. God wants me to be content because of everything I already have
 - **Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.**
1 Thessalonians chapter 5 verse 18 (907)
 - “The secret of a happy life is not to get what you want but to live with what you've got. Most of us spend our lives concentrating on what we don't have instead of thanking God for what we do have. Then we wake up, our life is over, and we missed the beauty of the present.”
2. God wants me to be thankful because of how I'm blessed
 - **Let all that I am praise the Lord; with my whole heart, I will praise his holy name.**
Let all that I am praise the Lord; may I never forget the good things he does for me.
Psalm 103 verses 1 & 2 (460)
 - **God said, “Giving thanks is a sacrifice that truly honors me.”** Psalm 50 verse 23 (436)
 - What are 3 things that I've seldom or never thanked God for, that I can thank him for right now?
3. God wants me to be thankful because he allows my mistakes & pain to bring me closer to him
 - **Joseph said to his brothers, “You intended to harm me, but God intended it all for good.”**
Genesis chapter 50 verse 20 (43)
 - **We know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God...**
Romans chapter 8 verse 28 (863)
 - What's your “Joseph” story?
 - What are the “broken roads” in your life that God has used to bring you to him?
 - Why not thank God for these right now?

Online resources:

- www.globalrichlist.com
- The Voice of the Martyrs - www.persecution.com
- Christian Persecution Info - www.christianpersecution.info