

THANK YOU

Gratitude is Worship - Habakkuk 3:17-18 Message Reflection Guide

In my state in the US, the winters can be brutal, with sub-zero temperatures and never-ending snow. One bitterly cold day, as I shoveled snow for what seemed like the thousandth time, our postman paused in his rounds to ask how I was doing. I told him that I disliked winter and was weary of all the heavy snow. I then commented that his job must be pretty rough during these extreme weather conditions. He responded, "Yeah, but at least I have a job. A lot of people don't. I'm thankful to be working."

I have to admit that I felt quite convicted by his attitude of gratitude. How easily we can lose sight of everything we have to be thankful for when the circumstances of life become unpleasant. Paul told the followers of Christ at Colossae, "Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful" (Colossians 3:15). He wrote to the Thessalonians, "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus"

Even in our times of genuine struggle and pain, we can know God's peace and permit it to rule our hearts. And in that peace, we'll find reminders of all that we've been given in Christ. In that, we can truly be thankful. - Bill Crowder

CONVERSATION STARTER

What is something you accomplished as part of a team?

GETTING INTO THE SCRIPTURES

 Read Habakkuk 3:17-18

On Sunday Pastor Jason and Cory said "Worship is a natural expression of gratitude to a good and mighty God who is generous to His children." How have you experienced or witnessed the generosity of God? How does the Gospel reflect the generosity of God?

He is good and is continually good to us. What causes you to doubt that God is good to you? Why is it important to understand that He is continually good to us?

He fills us with His goodness. As we grow in our discipleship, we must decrease so He can increase in our lives. What "good" characteristic of God would you desire to grow in? How do you need the Holy Spirit's help to grow in that area?

He invites us to partner with Him in Kingdom work. In what tangible ways do you see yourself partnering with God in kingdom work? Who are you praying for and sharing the Gospel with, in hopes that they will come to know Christ as Savior and Lord?

CHALLENGE

The only thing preventing you from expressing gratitude towards God through worship is your perspective and attitude. We often complain when we are focused on ourselves and our circumstances. Rather than complain, our lives should be a daily choice to worship our mighty God because He is good, fills us with His goodness and gives us a good calling. What negative attitudes prevent you from expressing gratitude through worship? What can you thank God for today?