

Thanksgiving Sunday

Restful Hearts, Busy Hands

November 20, 2016 / Jeff Gunn

¹⁰ I rejoiced greatly in the Lord that at last you renewed your concern for me. Indeed, you were concerned, but you had no opportunity to show it. ¹¹ I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. ¹² I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. ¹³ I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

¹⁴ Yet it was good of you to share in my troubles. ¹⁵ Moreover, as you Philippians know, in the early days of your acquaintance with the gospel, when I set out from Macedonia, not one church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you only; ¹⁶ for even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me aid more than once when I was in need. ¹⁷ Not that I desire your gifts; what I desire is that more be credited to your account. ¹⁸ I have received full payment and have more than enough. I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God. ¹⁹ And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

²⁰ To our God and Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Philippians 4:10-20, NIV

God is a _____. He loves to shower us with _____.

The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. Galatians 2:20, NIV

Faith that God is a giver gives us _____ when we are waiting for his help.

¹⁰ I rejoiced greatly in the Lord that at last you renewed your concern for me. Indeed, you were concerned, but you had no opportunity to show it. v. 10

¹² We do not want you to become lazy, but to imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised.

Hebrews 6:12, NIV

Faith that God is a giver helps us be _____ no matter the external circumstances.

¹¹ I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. v. 11

¹³ I can do all this through him who gives me strength. v. 13

Faith that God is a giver inspires us to be _____ and share in the _____ of others.

¹⁴ Yet it was good of you to share in my troubles... not one church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you only; ¹⁶ for even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me aid more than once when I was in need. v. 14, 15b-16

¹⁸ Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. **1 Timothy 6:18, NIV**

Faith that God is a giver draws us to _____ and glorify God for all the _____ he constantly shows us.

They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God. ¹⁹ And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus. ²⁰ To our God and Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen. v. 18b-20

MEMORY VERSE

¹⁹ And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus. **Philippians 4:19, NIV**

My next step: God is a giver. I will respond by having my heart at rest and my hands busy, so that I can glorify him.

What's your next step today?

Mark it on your Communication Card.



Thanksgiving | 11/20 – 11/26

Getting Started: What would you want your “perfect” Thanksgiving Day to include?

Back to Sunday:

God is a giver. He shows his love, kindness and generosity through things he gives to us.

Individually –

List 5 gifts from God that overwhelm you.

Put down in words why you find them so overwhelming.

Share 2 of them with the group.

Faith in God as a giver makes us:

Patient in difficult times.

Content with what we have been given.

Generous to others with what we have.

Wanting to Worship him.

In which one of the above responses are you strongest and weakest? Why do you think that is?

Digging Deeper:

Read Psalm 118 as a group

Identify verses and thoughts that stick out to you.

Share your findings with the group.

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love endures forever. What does it mean that God’s love endures forever?

Psalm 118:6 Agree or Disagree: When God is with me “mortal man” cannot do anything to me.

Psalm 118:8 Who are people that you might tend to “put your trust in”? How are you setting them up for failure and yourself up for disappointment?

Psalm 118:13-14 Why is being “about to fall” not a horrible place for a Christian to be?

Psalm 118:21-23 Who is this verse talking about? What is the imagery that is being used in this verse?

Psalm 118:28 Why is it right to talk about God being “ours” and at the same time to say that we are “his”?

Taking It Home:

How does a person become more thankful?

Why will generosity always follow a thankful heart?

What are 3 things that you will do to be more generous in the next month?

Close with Prayer: