

TITLE: GOD IS A GIVER... BUT WHAT SHALL WE GIVE HIM?

TEXT: 1 THESS. 5:16-24

TRUTH: THERE IS NO SHORTAGE OF EVIL OR PROBLEMS WITHIN THE WORLD, BUT WE CAN LIVE WITH PEACE THAT COMES FROM GOD ALONE

- WE ARE TO BE JOYFUL, TO NEVER STOP PRAYING, & TO BE THANKFUL
- THOUGH WE TEND TO GIVE UP ON GOD. HE HAS NOT GIVEN UP ON US

HEB. 13:5 "GOD HAS SAID, 'I WILL NEVER FAIL YOU. I WILL NEVER ABANDON YOU'

- THOSE WHO PLACE THEIR LIVES INTO GOD'S HANDS WILL NOT REGRET IT

TEXT: PSALM 25: 8-10, 1-2A; PSALM 37:1-6

TRUTH: THOSE WHO TRUST GOD WILL FLOURISH

TEXT: PSALM 1:1-6

- WE ARE TO TAKE DELIGHT IN HIM. MEDITATE ON HIS WORD
- WE ARE TO ALSO TRUST GOD WITH THE RESULTS

TEXT: PHIL. 4:4-10

- TO BE FULL OF JOY IN THE LORD WE MUST GIVE OUR WHOLE SELF TO GOD

TRUTH: TO EXPERIENCE THIS JOY WE CANNOT REFRAIN FROM GIVING THE LORD OUR ALL – EVEN IF ALL WE SEEM TO HAVE AT THE PRESENT MOMENT IS PAIN

TEXT: HEB.12:1-2

- WE ARE TO KEEP OUR EYES ON JESUS.
- APPROACH GOD WITH YOUR SORROWS

TEXT: HEBREWS 4:16

"SO LET US COME BOLDLY TO THE THRONE OF OUR GRACIOUS GOD. THERE WE WILL RECEIVE HIS MERCY, AND WE WILL FIND GRACE TO HELP US WHEN WE NEED IT MOST."

TEXT: PSALM 88:14-15, 18

- LET HIM TAKE YOUR COMPLAINTS, ANGER, SUFFERINGS, FRUSTRATIONS, HEARTACHES, SORROW FROM YOU

TEXT: 1 PETER 5:7

"CAST ALL YOUR ANXIETY ON HIM BECAUSE HE CARES FOR YOU"

ANN VOSKAMP – “LAMENT IS A CRY OF BELIEF IN A GOOD GOD, A GOD WHO HAS HIS EAR TO OUR HEARTS, A GOD WHO TRANSGURES THE UGLY INTO BEAUTY. COMPLAINT IS THE BITTER HOWL OF UNBELIEF IN ANY BENEVOLENT GOD IN THIS MOMENT, A DISTRUST IN THE LOVE-BEAT OF THE FATHER’S HEART.”

TEXT: PSALM 30:11-12

“YOU HAVE TURNED MY MOURNING INTO JOYFUL DANCING. YOU HAVE TAKEN AWAY MY CLOTHES OF MOURNING AND CLOTHED ME WITH JOY, THAT I MIGHT SING PRAISES TO YOU AND NOT BE SILENT. O LORD MY GOD, I WILL GIVE YOU THANKS FOREVER!”

TEXT: JEREMIAH 13:11

TRUTH: GOD WANTS TO BE IN RELATIONSHIP WITH HIS PEOPLE. THIS RELATIONSHIP IS MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL, FOR BOTH US AND GOD

Q: SO WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO PRAY WITHOUT CEASING?

A: WHETHER ITS THROUGH PRAYING OR PRAISING HIM WE MUST SIT DOWN WITH GOD UNTIL WE EXPERIENCE HIS PEACE.

TEXT: PSALM 37:7 “BE STILL IN THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD & WAIT PATIENTLY FOR HIM TO ACT

TEXT: MATTHEW 6:33

“BUT SEEK YOU FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD, AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS; AND ALL THESE THINGS SHALL BE ADDED UNTO YOU

TEXT: JAMES 1:2-6

“...BUT WHEN YOU ASK HIM, BE SURE THAT YOUR FAITH IS IN GOD ALONE...”

- AND WHEN YOU LIFT UP YOUR PRAYERS TO GOD, JOIN THEM WITH PRAISE AND GOD’S PEACE WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE.

**Q: WILL YOU BE A PEOPLE WHO PRAYS/PRAISE - WITHOUT CEASING?
FOR S/HE WHO PRAYS WILL ALSO BRING GOD THEIR PRAISE!**