

Day 5 Thanksgiving Devotional

Friday, November 24, 2017

<http://www.rivercc.org/2017/11/24/day-5-thanksgiving-devotional/>

Pray:

Ask God to orient or reorient you to Himself. Confess any known sin. Thank Him for His forgiveness. Be still and reflect on Jesus and His sacrifice for you. Ask the Holy Spirit to open your heart and mind to God's Word. Pray for others in your life that they, too, would know and love God today.

Read:

1 Cor. 15:57,

“But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

Understand

Here's the biggest reason we can live with thankfulness and gratitude in our hearts: God has given us victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!

Through faith in Him, we have victory over death and the grave. Death is robbed of its sting. It is a known fact that when certain insects sting a person, they leave their stinger imbedded in the person's flesh. Being robbed of their “sting,” they die. In a very real sense, Death stung itself to death at the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, and now the King of Terrors is robbed of his terror as far as the believer is concerned (MacDonald).

Death has been robbed of its sting—think about that for a moment. Everything that causes us grief pales in comparison. The day eternal life began for you was the day you gave your life to God through faith in Jesus. Whatever happens this side of heaven seems small when compared to eternity. I want to make sure you understand this: I'm not down-playing or being flippant about the struggles and hardships we have going on in our lives. There is no doubt that they are difficult. Even so, we can still live with gratitude because of what Christ has done for us.

Look at what the apostle John wrote concerning his reason for writing (1 John 2:12-13):

“I am writing to you, dear children, because your sins have been forgiven on account of His name. 13 I am writing to you, fathers, because you know Him who is from the beginning. I am writing to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one. 14 I write to you, dear children, because you know the Father. I write to you, fathers, because you know Him who is from the beginning. I write to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God lives in you, and you have overcome the evil one.”

What an encouragement! I can't think of a better reason to embrace thankfulness and gratitude as we live

for Jesus.

Apply:

What do you need to do to close the gap on living with thankfulness and gratitude?

Live:

(Personalize this prayer today; make it specific to the circumstances that face you.)

Ask God to lead you through His Spirit as you go through your day. Ask Him to bring to mind the truth of the Gospel and its implications for what you will encounter today. Tell Him "Yes" to His will and ask Him for His power and protection to live this "yes." Ask God to create and reveal opportunities to proclaim the good news today. **KEEP PRAYING THROUGHOUT YOUR DAY.**
