

Inspiring Quotes:

A free person is one who is content whatever the circumstances, because he or she knows that the big picture is more than the clothes on our back. (Expositors Bible Commentary, p.540)

Pride slays thanksgiving, but a humble mind is the soil out of which thanks naturally grow. A proud man is seldom a grateful man, for he never thinks he gets as much as he deserves. (Henry Ward Beecher)

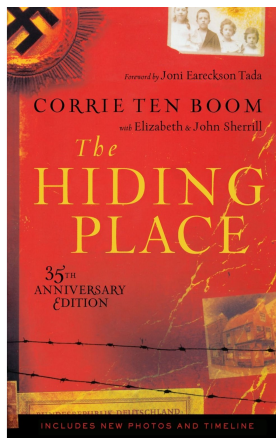
Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God. (Corrie ten Boom)

When a train goes through a tunnel and it gets dark, you don't throw away the ticket and jump off. You sit still and trust the engineer. (Corrie ten Boom)

Worry does not empty tomorrow of its sorrow. It empties today of its strength. (Corrie ten Boom)

There are no "ifs" in God's kingdom. His timing is perfect. His will is our hiding place. Lord Jesus, keep me in Your will! Don't let me go mad by poking about outside it. (Betsie Ten Boom)

Recommended Reading:



The Head and Heart of Thanksgiving

Psalm 100

A psalm of thanksgiving

¹ Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

² Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

³ Know that the LORD is God.

It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

⁴ Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

⁵ For the LORD is good and his unfailing love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

Our Threefold Problem:

_____ coupled with the lack of conviction that _____ and that _____

Psalm 23

¹ The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

² He makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters.

³ He restores my soul.

He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

⁴ Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

John 10:11 – “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.”

Psalm 105:1 – Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples! (ESV)

Psalm 106:1 – Praise the LORD. Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever. (NIV)

1 Chronicles 16:34 – Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever. (NIV)

Ephesians 5:20 – And give thanks for *everything* to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. (NLT)

1 Thessalonians 5:16 - 18 – ¹⁶ Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray continually, ¹⁸ give thanks *in all circumstances*; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. (NIV)

Romans 8:28 – And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. (NIV)

How do we get there? Two things:

Know God (How?)

Read _____

Read stories of _____

Learn some _____

Worship / Praise / Thank Him

_____ – _____ – _____

Practice

Take Action This Week:

Ask yourself: “Is my life characterized by *grumbling* or *gratitude*?”

One writer said of Psalm 100 that it is the “unclouded summit” that closes Psalms 93-100, which proclaim God as King. Read one of those Psalms each day and pay particular attention to what it teaches you about God's person and character.

For at least the next week, set aside 10 minutes everyday to stop everything and find something for which you can thank God. If you make it the same time everyday you will be more apt to do it.