

Patterns of Grace and Gratitude Week 3

Thursday, April 29



“Wildflowers & old stump”

I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever. Every day I will praise you and extol your name for ever and ever. Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom. One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts. They speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty— and I will meditate on your wonderful works. They tell of the power of your awesome works— and I will proclaim your great deeds. They celebrate your abundant goodness and joyfully sing of your righteousness. The LORD is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love. The LORD is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made. Psalm 145:1-9

Until something is not available or disappears from our life, it is easy to ignore how grateful we are for its presence. A friend who moves away, or a family member who dies may leave a hole in the fabric of our lives. Or simple things like the running water, or electricity, or Wi-Fi in our homes we take for granted until they stop working.

Creating a daily pattern of giving thanks, allows us to notice these basic, critically important things and thank God for their importance in our lives. These things are the unnoticed blessings.

It is also important to continue to recognize the beautiful sunsets, rainbows and recognition of how we are saved in urgent situations. But creating a habit of thanking God each day for the blessings known and unknown will soften our hearts and open us to other ways that God is working in and around us.

And as the psalm reiterates, giving praise and thanks to God is a daily act. But also mentioning that we are thankful and why to the next generations is equally important, lest we or they think that we create our own beauty and circumstance. We participate in God’s creation and are thankful for the ways God blesses us and those around us. What are you thankful for today that is under the surface and not usually noticed?

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