

Look

Our lives are full of incredible blessings, both in the past and the present. But sometimes not so great things happen. We get sick, or we have financial troubles, or we become afraid or angry in a relationship; and then it is like a big cloud comes over our lives and blocks out our ability to see our blessings.

1. Take a moment to really consider all of the blessings in your life both past and present. How do you feel when you consider everything? How often do you really think about them?
2. Describe a time when things were difficult in your life (illness, financial troubles, struggling relationship) and you found yourself consumed by the difficulties so that you could not see your blessings. What did you do or how did things finally change?
3. Do you think that for most people it is easier to be consumed by the negative of life rather than to focus on the ways they are blessed? Why? Do you think that society promotes one way of thinking over the other?

Book

Genesis 32:3-8, 22-30; Luke 18:1-8a

Wrestle with fear and pray. Then give praise and thanks to God...don't lose heart.

1. In what way were Jacob and the Widow alike? How were they rewarded?
2. How would these stories be different if Jacob or the Widow had allowed themselves to be consumed by their fears or lose heart?
3. What message would these stories have had in their day? What message do they have for us today?

Took

When we come together in worship to offer our thankful hearts together, God pulls us through. "If your heart beats with my heart with love and loyalty to Jesus Christ, take my hand."

-John Wesley

1. How does your time in worship help you to be more aware of your blessings and to fight the dark clouds that can sometimes loom over your life?
2. Why do you think that it is important to worship and offer thanks with others instead of always alone?
3. What does the quote by John Wesley mean to you? How can you live out this quote in offering a thankful heart to God?