"Living Gratefully" Gratitude Part 3

# **Express Gratitude for <u>Your Home Team</u>**

"Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ" Galatians 6:2

"Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work: If one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up! Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken." Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

"Hospitality means primarily the creation of free space where the stranger can enter and become a friend instead of an enemy. Hospitality is not to change people, but to offer them space where change can take place. It is not to bring men and women over to our side, but to offer freedom not disturbed by dividing lines."

Heni Nouwen

"Reaching Out: The Three Movements of the Spiritual Life"

**Express Gratitude for what we share** 

"My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup> Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends."

John 15:12-13

# *"Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling" 1 Peter 4:9*

"Suffering is unbearable if you aren't certain that God is for you and with you... suffering is actually at the hear of the Christan story." Pastor Tim Keller; "Walking with God through Pain and Suffering."

## Expressing Gratitude in pain

What can we say about Gratitude in pain and Struggle? We / YOU can be grateful for 3 Truths :

#### God is <u>WITH YOU</u> in your struggle:

# "And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

**Matthew 28:20** 

What can we say about Gratitude in pain and Struggle? We / YOU can be grateful for 3 Truths :

#### God is FOR YOU when it seems all else is against you

## "What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us?"

**Romans 8:31** 

#### What can we say about Gratitude in pain and Struggle? We / YOU can be grateful for 3 Truths :

God will carry You THROUGH pain

Isaiah 43:1-3 "But now, this is what the LORD says — he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze. For I am the LORD, your God,

"Never lose an opportunity of seeing anything beautiful, for beauty is God's handwriting."

Ralph Waldo Emerson

"He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the hearts of men; yet they cannot fathom what God has done from beginning to end." Ecclesiastes 3:11

**Expressing Gratitude For <b>Beauty** 

#### <u>Stop; B reath; N otice</u>

"Then God said, "I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. <sup>30</sup> And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air and all the creatures that move on the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food." And it was so

<sup>31</sup> God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day." Genesis 1:29-31 "Often people ask how I manage to be happy despite having no arms and no legs. The quick answer is <u>that I have choice</u>. I can be angry about not having limbs, or I can thankful that I have purpose. <u>I choose</u> gratitude.

Nick Vujicic

### "To me, a faith in Jesus Christ that is not aligned with the poor ...it's nothing" <u>Singer, songwriter, p</u>hilanthropist ; Bono

Express Gratitude For Things we take for granted

"You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God." 2 Corinthians 9:11

"Some people believe holding on and hanging in there are signs of great strength. However, there are times it takes much more strength to know when to let go."

Ann Landers

**Express Gratitude For Letting Go** 

"See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland." Isaiah 43:19

"The Christian does not think God will love because we are good, but that God will make us good because He loves us." C. S Lewis

"But you, O Lord, are a compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness." Psalm 86:15

**Express Gratitude For Outrageous Love**