



Shepherd's Path

A Shepherd's Personal Devotions

Discover the Design Series, Lesson 1

Lesson Title: Memorial Weekend

Take Home Point: Remember your blessings and be thankful

Warm-Up:

At a family gathering a few years ago, four generations of women were talking together in the kitchen. A younger woman asked, "Of all the conveniences in this kitchen, which do you think we should be most grateful for?" "Microwave!" her mother said, "After years of a hot stove, it's wonderful!" All agreed it was great. But the grandmother said, "It's the refrigerator. Perishable food is available just by opening a door." When that was mentioned, again all agreed. Then the great-grandma spoke up. "Those are just gadgets!" she said. "What we can be most thankful for is RUNNING WATER!"

Read: Psalm 111:1-5; Psalm 77:11-12

Observation (What happened?):

For what does the Psalmist give thanks with all his heart?

Name as many of God's characteristics, identified either directly or indirectly, as you can find in these verses.

Interpretation (What does it mean?):

According to Psalm 111:2, we should study the Lord's deeds. What are some of the Lord's deeds from both then and today?

Who can most appreciate the Lord's blessings?

Insight:

Sometimes we don't say thanks to the Lord for his goodness to us because we don't think about it. That's why the writer of Psalm 111 tells us to study the Lord's deeds. We should give thought and study to who he is, what he has done, and what he has made. For example, I have always appreciated the marvelous intricacies of the human hand. But I recently had surgery on my hand, and as it heals I am more thankful than ever not only for how he made my hand, but how my body heals itself (with good care to help the process!). Now every once in a while I just look at my hand and move it around, thanking my God for his creativity and power. How about thanking God just for the privilege of spending time with the Lord, communing and communicating with the Almighty? He has made it possible, and it's his most wonderful deed of all!

Application (What does it mean to me?):

What are you thankful for spiritually? What are you thankful for physically? Spend some time in prayer thanking God.

How can you thank God publicly for his rich and countless blessings? Tell at least one person this week one thing that the Lord has blessed you with recently.

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