

Expect Unexpected Blessings

Pastor's Desk – July 30, 2017



Life has its ups and downs, windfalls and hardships, blessings and curses. In the midst of what feels like tragedy, what we decide to focus on will be our reward or our loss, depending upon how we look at it. Basically, what we see and speak, we will receive.

In Ephesians 1:11, we read “All things are done according to God's plan and decision; and God chose us to be his own people in union with Christ because of his own purpose, based on what he had decided from the very beginning.” God’s in control of everything and has a plan. As Christians, we need to do our part according to His Word, for His plan to be fully understood and realized in our lives.

Before I became a Believer, my Mom was attacked with Alzheimer’s Disease; about 9 years ago. Because I am a self-professed “Mama’s Girl”, I was devastated by the diagnosis. Then Jesus entered my heart, and things began to look very different. Even though I have endured watching this once healthy, active woman decline from simple forgetfulness to someone with the inability to walk, talk or understand, God has held my hand through it all. You know what else He has done through this “tragedy”? God surprises me every time that I am with my sweet Mom. In some unexpected and seemingly small way, **He blesses me**. He

shows me that her spirit is still alive; that she still knows me and that she truly “sees” and loves me. The “small” blessings have included a focused look from her eyes into mine with a rare smile, or a “thank you” from her lips when I tell her I love her. She hasn’t responded to anyone in months, too many to count. The list of blessings goes on and on. I choose to see God in all of this. If my focus had been on the horrific disease that attacked my Mom, I would continue to crumble and after 9 years, may not even be alive due to the sadness; BUT GOD!!

James 1:17 tells us that “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.” Every one of these gifts comes from God and when we accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior, we will receive these gifts. But it is up to each one of us to see the blessings throughout the trials.

It’s your choice: blessing or curse? Which will you choose to see? I believe that you will be happiest if, amid your trials, you choose to see God’s blessings no matter the size. I pray that God delivers the most beautiful of unexpected blessings to you today and that you choose to see them.

In Christ’s Love,
Sister Jenny Smith