

Being with Jesus:

A Devotional From the Book of Mark

Week 3
Blind Faith

Day 2

Scripture

- 5 Trust in the Lord with all your heart
and lean not on your own
understanding;
6 in all your ways submit to him,
and he will make your paths straight.
7 Do not be wise in your own eyes;
fear the Lord and shun evil.
8 This will bring health to your body
and nourishment to your bones
—Proverbs 3:5-8

“Oh, how I love your law!
I meditate on it all day long.”
—Psalm 119:97

“For the Lord God is a sun and shield;
the Lord bestows favor and honor;
no good thing does he withhold
from those whose walk is blameless”
—Psalm 84:11

“Every good and perfect gift is from above,
coming down from the Father of the
heavenly lights, who does not change like
shifting shadows.”
— James 1:17

Reflection

There are times when it's hard to choose God's way. Sometimes it seems like doing what the Bible says to do will cost us money, joy, or friendships that we wouldn't have to lose if we just broke the rules a little. We see people cheating and getting better grades or stealing and having more cash. Sometimes people lie, avoid, and get out of a punishment or negative consequence. It takes faith to do what God wants us to do when we see what looks to be an easier way.

When we know that God is good, that He is for us, and that He's more wise than we will ever be, it makes it easier to follow His way even when it seems the harder way. If we trust that He loves us more than we love ourselves and knows what's best for us, it strengthens our resolve to do what He asks. In Psalm 119, the writer says he loves God's law. When we hear that, we may think, “Oh yeah, that's the place in the Bible where all the rules are. How can anyone really love that?” But, when we believe that God is out for our good, we know that everything He asks us to do is for our flourishing. So, we can be thankful because He teaches us to live like we should so that we come most alive.

There is nothing truly good for us outside of the will of God. The last two scriptures teach us that every good thing comes from God and that He does not hold anything back from us that would be good for us. Keep that in mind if you're feeling tempted to go outside of God's way to get what you want. Have faith!

Prayer:

God, thank You for giving me everything I need. Thank You for teaching me the right way to live. Thank You for not withholding any good thing from me. Help me to keep this in mind when I am tempted to go outside of Your way to get what I want. Amen.

Questions

Do you ever feel like you're missing out on good things because you're following God?

Is it hard for you to trust that God's way is best?

What would change in your life if you believed that everything good comes from God and that He doesn't hold anything back from us that is good for us?