



A Grateful
Easter



Thursday: Preparing

Finding Gratitude in the Uneasiness

"...Jesus took the bread, and when he had

given thanks,

he broke it and gave it to the disciples..." Matthew 26:26

Day One

This week, we looked at how Jesus prepared for what was coming. When have you found yourself aware of an Uneasiness in life? Thought perhaps something, a trial, a struggle, a victory, was coming your way?

Day Two

What was your first reaction to the Uneasiness? Cry? Pray? Hide under the covers? Did you do what Jesus did? Prepare, gather, share, or pray?

Day Three

How would you do the Uneasiness differently now? Who would you invite? Who would you ask to join you in prayer? Where would you go for prayer?

Day Four

Looking back, what could you have been grateful for in the Uneasiness? What can you be grateful for now? Where have you received the ordinary miracle of provision?

Day Five

Spend time talking with Jesus about your gratitude list from yesterday and ask Him to help you prepare for the next Uneasiness through gratitude.



Friday: Something...

Finding your Something in the Unexpected

"And when the Centurion,

who stood there in front of Jesus,

saw how he died, he said, 'Surely this man was the Son of God'"

- Mark 15:39

Day One

When have you found yourself facing the Unexpected in life? Did it follow an Uneasiness? What about it was Unexpected?

Day Two

What was your reaction to the Unexpected? Shock? Anger? Helplessness? Were you able to remember the victories in previous Unexpected times? The times when Jesus calmed your storm or brought you back to life?

Day Three

In those days of walking through the Unexpected, were you aware of people watching how you handled it? On social media, in the office, at the PTA meeting? Who around you needs to see Jesus in you?

Day Four

Are you in the middle of an Unexpected now? What is Something you can be thankful for in this moment? What about in past Unexpected? Go back and think through a gratitude list for those times, too.

Day Five

Spend time talking with Jesus about your gratitude list from yesterday and ask Him to help you find Something to be thankful for today and during the next Unexpected.



Saturday: Everything...

Finding your Everything in the Unknown

The women who had come with Jesus from Galilee went home to prepare

But they rested on the Sabbath in obedience...

Luke 23:55-56

Day One

Following the Unexpected, comes the Unknown. Describe your Unknown days.

Day Two

The women came with Jesus from Galilee. In your Unknowns, who came with you? Your spouse? Your college roommates? Your small group? Make a list and say of prayer of gratitude for each person today.

Day Three

What do you do during the Unknown? Do you get caught up in the circumstances and spectators? Do you have a healthy distance where you can ponder instead of work? Think about what you can do to create space for pondering.

Day Four

Do you feel like you can rest during the Unknown times in your life? Is rest worthy of gratitude and obedience? Is it part of the regular rhythm of your life?

Day Five

Spend time talking with Jesus about your Unknowns. Do you believe in Him everything is both Unknown and entirely possible? What does it look like for you to step out and accept Jesus as the center of everything?



Sunday: One Thing...

Finding your One Thing in the Unimaginable

Suddenly, Jesus met them.

"Greetings," he said. They came to him, clasped his feet,

and worshiped him. -Matthew 28:9

Day One

From the Unexpected to the Unknown, and now the Unimaginable. Reflect on a time you faced the Unimaginable. Did it follow periods of unexpected events and unknown times of waiting?

Day Two

What has Jesus said to you? What in His scriptures, in His whispers when you are still, what promises has He spoken for you to hold on to in the Unimaginable? If you don't believe He has, ask Him to show you.

Day Three

Have you felt both "afraid and joyful" when you are facing the end of the Unexpected and Unknown in the Unimaginable? Do those emotions seem to go hand in hand? How have you handled them?

Day Four

When did Jesus meet you? The first time? The most unexpected time? The moments when you needed Him most? In the Unimaginable victory? List as many as you can remember.

Day Five

Take your lists from this week. The things Jesus has said to you. The times when you felt both fear and joy together. The moments when Jesus met you. Take that list, grab the feet of Jesus and offer it to Him as an offering of worship and gratitude.