

Thoughts by Joni Eareckson Tada

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; His love endures forever. Let the redeemed of the Lord say this..."

Psalm 107:1-2

It was a dull Saturday. My spirits were drooping and it was all I could do to fight off depression. A corset riding high was digging into my ribs, forcing me to draw deep breaths now and then. And when I did, I would and say, "The Lord is good." Somewhere after the fifth "Lord is good," my friend turned and gave a good-natured dig, asking, "What are you doing? Trying to convince yourself?"

"You've got it," I replied. It's not that I doubted God's goodness, I simply wanted to remind my dry, cracked soul of the truth. David, the psalmist, often grabbed his innermost being by the scruff of the neck, demanding, "Why are you downcast, O my soul? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God" (Psalm 42:5). It's easy to announce God's goodness when your spirits are soaring; it's another thing — a more God-glorifying thing — to proclaim the goodness of God out loud when you're under the weather.

Voicing the goodness of God is a testimony not only to your downcast soul, but to others listening in. And not just people, but powers and principalities who stand on tiptoe to see what you have to say about your Savior when times are tough. "Let the redeemed of the Lord say this" our verse today advises. Find moments today to speak out loud of the goodness of God, no matter what your emotions insist.

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Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love. This describes me to a tee. But not today. Today I insist that my soul listen. The Lord is good.



LINDEN LODGE WORSHIP SERVICE

February 21, 2010

9:50 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Linden Lodge Worship Service

February 21, 2010

Thought for the Week:

When life hands you lemons, don't just make lemonade. Open up a lemonade stand!

Key Verse: "Abraham reasoned that God could raise the dead, and figuratively speaking, he did receive Isaac back from death." Hebrews 11:19

Opening and Prayer:

Songs:

I am not Skilled to Understand 277
Great is Thy faithfulness 90

Scripture Reading:

Genesis 6:8-13; 18-7:1
Hebrews 11:7

Special music: Strings

Message : Abraham's faith beyond death

Closing Hymn:

I Sing the Mighty Power of God 108

Benediction: Hardy Friesen

Postlude: Jean Thiessen

You don't have to be alone in your hurt! Comfort is yours.
Joy is an option. And it's all been made possible by your Saviour.

He went without comfort so you might have it.
He postponed joy so you might share in it.
He willingly chose isolation so you might never be alone
in your hurt and sorrow.

By Joni Eareckson Tada

The Promised Land (Abraham)

Up from the land of his birth
To where he did not know;
An inheritance on this earth,
A stranger both high and low.

Only tents did he ever own
But mansions were promised above
In a city which stands forever
And built by the God of love.

By faith he hoped for a son
And considered God true to His word,
Who gave him an heir for all time
And seed as sand on the shore.

By faith he trusted the Lord
When Isaac's death was assured
But he knew the God of love
Could raise him from the dead.

Resurrection, now we know it!
Abraham saw its truth -
For a city God has established
And in faith we see it now.

Humor or Not? Second Notice

A taxpayer received a strongly worded "second notice" that his taxes were overdue. Hastening to the collector's office, he paid his bill, saying apologetically that he had overlooked the first notice.

"Oh," confided the collector with a smile, "we don't send out first notices. We have found that the second notices are more effective."