

Gratitude or Grumbling, pt. 2 “Train to Reign”

December 6th, 2020 by Kasey Crawford

Today's Passages: Luke 6:40, Rom. 12:1, Phil 4:8, 2 Cor 10:4-6

Whether you choose to make gratitude or grumbling a way of life, may mean the difference between spiritual life and death.

Gratitude is rooted in recognizing the _____ all around you. James 1:17

Grumbling is an _____ focus on the problems and the failure to recognize the Grace that is all around you.

Gratitude is healthy focus on the promises and the recognition of the Grace that is all around you.

Are you choosing to focus on the problem or the promise?

Gratitude is therefore a crucial spiritual discipline that _____ the mind to focus on the reality of God's grace in everything.

One of the great privileges in life is stewarding well our own training.

A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher. Luke 6:40

Jesus' desire is to _____ you to live like him. Train to Reign!

We are specifically called to train our minds toward gratitude.

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present (offer, make available) your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Romans 12:1-2

In Short: Partner with God to train your mind.

2 specific ways to train our minds toward

1. Practice _____ on the go
"Whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about it."
The word "think about" literally means, "to dwell on."

The Gratitude Covenant: "I commit to only dwell on positive, grateful thoughts that recognize the good in every thing in life. And I make it a goal to never dwell on anything that allow it to grow into grumbling or worse, bitterness."

If a seed of negativity gets planted and watered, a seed of bitterness will soon spring up, defiling your mind.
See to it...that no "root of bitterness" spring up in your heart, and by it many become defiled.

2. Practice taking negative thoughts captive
"...take every thought captive to obey Christ."

God has given us weapons to destroy strongholds.

This verse is a battle cry to get your mind on positive thoughts. Be offended by negativity and grumble. And declare: This is where gratitude lives!!

Responding to God...

What are you training your mind to dwell on?
Are you ready to take the Gratitude Covenant?
What does it look like for you to take negativity captive?

Answers: grace, excessive, trains, train, dwelling