

HomeTouch

is a weekly ministry of
Orange Coast Church



Pastor Ken Studer

Sunday, March 4, 2007

Scripture Reading: Philippians 3:17-4:1

TODAY'S THOUGHT: Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it. —William Arthur Ward

It's hard to be thankful in all things, as the Bible exhorts us. But Corrie Ten Boom in her classic book, *The Hiding Place*, tells a story about an incident that taught her the principle of giving thanks in all things.

It was during World War II. Corrie and her sister, Betsie, had been harboring Jewish people in their home, so they were arrested and finally imprisoned at the Ravensbruck camp. Their barracks were extremely crowded. And it was also infested with fleas. One morning they read in their tattered Bible from 1 Thessalonians 5 the reminder to give thanks in all things. "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you" (v. 18).

Betsie said to Corrie, "Corrie, we've got to give thanks for these barracks and even for these fleas." Corrie replied, "I'm not going to thank God for fleas." But Betsie was persuasive, and they did thank God, even for the fleas.

During the months that followed, they found that their barrack was left relatively free, and they could do Bible study, talk openly, and even pray there. It was their only place of refuge. Several months later they learned that the guards never entered their barrack because of those awful fleas. Let our prayers today be filled with thanksgiving — even for fleas!

Prayer: Loving God, I have a thankful heart. I have so much to be thankful for. I'm not sure there are any "fleas" in my life for which to offer thanks. But when I see them, I will surely give thanks! Amen.

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Activity Page for the week of March 4, 2007

Daily Bible Readings

- Sunday:** Leviticus 1-4
- Monday:** Leviticus 5-7
- Tuesday:** Leviticus 8-10
- Wednesday:** Leviticus 11-13
- Thursday:** Leviticus 14-16
- Friday:** Leviticus 17-19
- Saturday:** Psalms 22-24

THE NEXT WORD

Directions: Unscramble the first four-letter word and transfer the letter over the numbered blank to the blanks that are numbered the same to the left of the plus signs. Unscramble the resulting five-, six-, seven- and eight-letter words to find the first word that completes the quotation below from the Bible.

	Z E G A	=	_ _ _ _		
			1		
	+		N A R V	=	_ _ _ _
1					2
	+		R A D C	=	_ _ _ _
1	2				3
	+		G I N T	=	_ _ _ _
1	2	3			4
	+		O I L I	=	_ _ _ _
1	2	3	4		

THE FIRST WORD...

" _____ that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world" (James 1:27).



ANSWERS: gaze, raven, dancer, renting, religion.