

Write out what 1 Thessalonians 5.18 teaches by drawing a line inside the letters:

God wants you to give thanks to
him - whatever happens!

Put a tick in the right box each time you hear the word:

Grumpy

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1. Write the names of some grumpy people in the Bible:
2. Usually when we're grumpy the last thing we'll do is a \_\_\_\_\_ it.
3. What are the three good things which God designed us to enjoy in as we praise and serve him?
  - a. g\_\_\_\_\_
  - b. p\_\_\_\_\_
  - c. p\_\_\_\_\_
4. We get grumpy when we l\_\_\_\_\_ in the wrong d\_\_\_\_\_ for these things and don't find them.
5. How are we doubly in trouble?
  - a. we've *done* w\_\_\_\_\_ and we need to be f\_\_\_\_\_
  - b. we're wrong *i*\_\_\_\_\_ and we need to be ch\_\_\_\_\_.
6. We're forgiven because Jesus d\_\_\_\_\_ for us. We're changed because Jesus r\_\_\_\_\_ for us.
7. The opposite of grumpiness is g\_\_\_\_\_ which is the same as t\_\_\_\_\_.
8. When we're thankful we don't think about o\_\_\_\_\_ but our f\_\_\_\_\_ is on God.

## GRUMPINESS and GRATITUDE

### 1. Grumpiness

- Lamech (Gen 4), Nabal (1 Sam 25), Ahab (1 Kings 18, 21, 22), Haman (Esther 3,5), Jonah (Jonah 4) ; Ps 106, 1 Cor 10, Numbers

### 2. God-given impulses: **God made humans properly** (Ecclesiastes 7.29)

- fill, subdue, guard, tend – growth, mastery, protection, craftsmanship, beauty, influence, security
- all in loving, obedient relationship with God
- and loving, serving relationship with others

### 3. Gone wrong: **but they've come up with "clever" ideas of their own.** (Ecclesiastes 7.29)

|               |                          |                                       |                          |                |
|---------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| Lord's Prayer | Under God, we enjoy true | but apart from God men seek their own | and women seek their own | which leads to |
| God's Name    | Glory                    | Reputation                            | Beauty                   | rivalry        |
| God's Kingdom | Power                    | Control                               | Influence                | conflict       |
| God's Will    | Pleasure                 | Preferences / comfort                 | Luxury / intimacy        | disagreement   |

*Grumpiness happens when we distort God-given impulses and then those distorted impulses (for our reputation, control, preferences) are crossed or thwarted.*

### 4. It doesn't have to be this way

- Jesus as counter-example – Human life as it's meant to be

### 5. Double messed-up-ness

- we're guilty – the lid off, the crash happened – need forgiveness
- we're warped – messed up inside – need change

### 6. Jesus and our double messed-up-ness

- his death deals with guilt so we can be forgiven
- his resurrection deals with warpedness so we can be changed

### 7. Gratitude – Colossians 3.17

- God-centredness: "He is my only Circumstance"
- Eyes on Jesus
- The discipline of thankfulness