



NEW EVERY MORNING

Lam.3:22-23 *“Because of the Lord’s great love we are not consumed, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness.”*

I was talking with a friend last week about the idea, even challenge, of recognizing God’s blessings when they happen. Her daughter is having a very hard time seeing God’s hand in her circumstances. There have been so many wounds in her life that she struggles with seeing those rather than God doing any work at all for her. My friend suggested to her daughter that she write down every good thing, no matter how big or small, that happens **TODAY**. Tomorrow, she can write down those things for that day, but focus only on **TODAY**, today.

We talked about our tendency to overlook the small things that happen from day to day because what we’re really looking for are the **REALLY BIG**, **MIRACULOUS**, **AWESOME**, **AMAZING**, **INSPIRING**, **GINORMOUS** events that we think tell us God is paying attention to us and our prayers. In **WAITING FOR THOSE**, we miss God’s constant blessings that pour down like rain. If we start with the first thing that happens in the morning...like, oh, morning itself, and go from there we can rack up quite a list of ways God blesses us.

Morning is a good place to start; when our eyes open, before our feet even hit the floor. First thing, we can ask God to *“satisfy us in the morning with Your unfailing love, that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days.”* **Psa.90:14** Right then, our focus can be on what God is doing moment by moment: our eyes **DO** open, we **ARE** breathing, we **CAN** get up. Even on these rainy days, we are thankful that we **CAN** walk with Maggie; that we **CAN** talk and pray together, that we have a warm, dry home to wake up in and come back to. The things God does in our lives are different depending on our circumstances but there are always things happening that point to God at work: jobs, families, health, enough money to pay the bills, and places to live. Even if we don’t have one thing, there is **SOMETHING** that God has given, or giving, that we can be thankful about.

It is so easy for us to look at what we **DON’ T** have, what **ISN’ T** happening, what we **SHOULD** have or do, that we miss the little blessings that make up the **MAJOR**

PORTION of our lives. Looking for and recognizing God's hand in EVERY part of our day can help us have that GRATEFUL, THANKFUL spirit; the one that looks up at God rather than inward to ourselves.

The day is pretty new but here are some ways God has already blessed me this day: a warm, dry house; heat that comes on; eyes opening on a new day; breath; clothes to wear; the ability to walk, talk, and pray; lights; food to eat; clean water; and, just now, sunshine coming through the office window. You get the idea. Make a list for yourself of the ways God has already blessed you **TODAY**. Just **TODAY**. Not what you didn't get yesterday or what you're anticipating tomorrow (that may never happen); just **TODAY**. God's "*compassions are new every morning*"; I think His blessings are and our thankfulness can be, too.

"What is man that You make so much of him, that You give him so much attention, that You examine him every morning and test him every moment?"
Job. 7:17-18

Thankful for NEW blessings,

Georgia