

Future Grace Questions

Chapter 2 – When Gratitude Malfunctions

Grasping the Big Idea

1. Is there anything that stood out to you from this chapter? Any questions, observations, or encouragements?
2. At the start of the chapter, Piper affirms the centrality of gratitude in the Christian life. Why does he immediately caution that gratitude is not the main biblical motive for obedience?
3. From pages 40-41. What is the fundamental difference Piper draws between gratitude and faith?
4. From pages 46-47. How does Piper portray the healthy relationship between gratitude and faith?

Challenged to Change

1. Reflect on a recent act of obedience: was it more driven by joy in future promises or by guilt-based gratitude?

2. How does an overemphasis on “paying God back” with your thankfulness rob you of present joy?
3. What new rhythms can help you shift from transactional gratitude to trusting expectation?

Praying for Change

Ask the Lord to purify your gratitude, making it a launching pad for faith rather than a weight of obligation. Thank Him for His gifts—and pray for strength to receive tomorrow’s mercies with fresh joy and dependence.