

Thanksgiving Sunday
“Wrestling With Grief & Gratitude”
1 Thessalonians 5:18

Okotoks Alliance Church
Sun. Oct. 10, 2021
Shirley Thiessen

Sermon Notes

Consider Memorizing

'Always be joyful. Never stop praying.
Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong
to Christ Jesus.' [1 Thessalonians 5:16-18](#), NLT

Sermon based questions for further reflection:

- 1.RECONNECT...** i) What was the high point of your week?
 ii) What was the low point of your week?

2.RECAP... Review the passage and [the message from this Sunday](#).
What is [1 Thessalonians 5:16-18](#) about, in your own words?

- i) **What are the losses you've experienced this past year or 19 months?**
...is it reasonable to categorize losses as lessor or greater?

- ii) **Some believers in the church at Thessalonica had died...
how might this shake the faith of a new believer?**
Read [1 Thes. 4:13-18](#) ...how should these words encourage us?

- iii) **What blessings can you count from this past 12-19 months?**
...how does counting our blessings help our minds?
...is it reasonable to call this scripture "a promise"? [2 Corinthians 9:8](#)
(Consider sharing these with others this Thanksgiving weekend)

**2.REVIEW ...What is Jesus speaking to you about from this passage
and this discussion?** (write it out...)

**3.RESPOND... what are you willing to do about the things that Jesus
is speaking to you about?** (write it out... calendar it?)

Some words to help you pray...

*Be still, my soul! The hour is hastening on When we shall be forever with the Lord,
When disappointment, grief and fear are gone, Sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.*

*Be still, my soul! When change and tears are past,
All safe and blessed we shall meet at last.*

(Katharina von Schlegel (1752)) Translation: Jane L. Borthwick (1813-1897))