

Holiday Living
Thanksgiving Guide
What if I don't feel thankful?
Psalm 34:1-8

— We always know what the Bible is saying.

— If we are lucky, we know why.

A psalm of David, regarding the time he pretended to be insane in front of Abimelech, who sent him away. (Included in Hebrew)

1. David ran from Saul.

Then David fled from Naioth at Ramah and went to Jonathan and asked, "What have I done? What is my crime? How have I wronged your father, that he is trying to kill me?" 1 Samuel 20:1

2. David lied to the priest and stole some bread.

David went to Nob, to Ahimelek the priest. Ahimelek trembled when he met him, and asked, "Why are you alone? Why is no one with you?" 1 Samuel 21:1

3. David tried to hide with the enemy
(and pled temporary insanity)

10 That day David fled from Saul and went to Achish king of Gath. 11 But the servants of Achish said to him, "Isn't this David, the king of the land? Isn't he the one they sing about in their dances:

*"Saul has slain his thousands,
and David his tens of thousands'?"*

*12 David took these words to heart and was very much afraid of Achish king of Gath.
13 So he pretended to be insane in their presence; and while he was in their hands he*

acted like a madman, making marks on the doors of the gate and letting saliva run down his beard.

14 Achish said to his servants, "Look at the man! He is insane! Why bring him to me?

15 Am I so short of madmen that you have to bring this fellow here to carry on like this in front of me? Must this man come into my house?" 1 Samuel 21:10-14

4. David ended up in a cave and he was not alone.

1 David left Gath and escaped to the cave of Adullam. When his brothers and his father's household heard about it, they went down to him there. 2 All those who were in distress or in debt or discontented gathered around him, and he became their commander. About four hundred men were with him. 1 Samuel 22:1-2

Introduce Prayer

Music

Sermon Part 2

What do we do when there are actual reasons not to be thankful?

1 I will praise the Lord at all times.

I will constantly speak his praises.

2 I will boast only in the Lord;

let all who are helpless take heart.

3 Come, let us tell of the Lord's greatness;

let us exalt his name together.

4 I prayed to the Lord, and he answered me.

He freed me from all my fears.

5 Those who look to him for help will be radiant with joy;

no shadow of shame will darken their faces.

6 In my desperation I prayed, and the Lord listened;

he saved me from all my troubles.

7 For the angel of the Lord is a guard;

he surrounds and defends all who fear him.

8 Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Oh, the joys of those who take refuge in him!

Psalm 34:1-8

**What do we do when
there are actual reasons not to be thankful?**

When things are not going well...

We can choose to curse the darkness.

or

We can determine to light a candle.
(and we always influence those closest to us)

I will praise.

*I will praise the Lord at all times.
I will constantly speak his praises.*

Psalm 34:1

Praise (to kneel)

— I'll give up (humility)

— I'll look up (worship)

At all times (no matter what).
Constantly (intentionally - habitually)

I will boast.

*I will boast only in the Lord;
let all who are helpless take heart.*

Psalm 34:2

**Because God has a foolish plan.

27 But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. 28 God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, 29 so that no one may boast before him. 30 It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption.

31 Therefore, as it is written: "Let the one who boasts boast in the Lord."

1 Corinthians 1:26-31

We will exalt.

*Come, **let us** tell of the Lord's greatness;
let us exalt his name together.*

Psalm 34:3

Exalt
to think he's awesome
and to tell him.

I will go first (trust).

*Taste and see that the Lord is good.
Oh, the joys of those who take refuge in him!*

Psalm 34:8

try, experience, discover

*We continually ask God to fill you with the **knowledge** of his will through all the wisdom
and **understanding** that the Spirit gives 1 Peter 2:1-3. Colossians 1:9*

- Knowledge is delivered to you.
- Understanding is experienced by you.

David's advice to us....

****Don't wait and see
Taste and see.**

What are you waiting for?