

Having an Attitude

by Lisa Hoffman



How do we feel blessed in the middle of illness or adversity? How can we turn a tragedy into a blessing? I believe it's done by our faith and trust in the Lord and our attitude in general about life. Do you see things as half-full or half-empty?

It's hard to always have an attitude of thankfulness, I know. But our pre-conceived thoughts about an illness or some hardship seems only to prepare us for the worst-case scenario. I would rather direct my thoughts towards Jesus and think about how He would react or deal with a situation.

Little difficulties, like a flat tire, for example, are really opportunities for the Lord to use me to do good things on His behalf. I can bless a small business owner car mechanic by giving him my business on a slow day. Maybe every day is slow for some people, and I can make the difference in their world. I realized Bob's stroke was a blessing before the doctors labeled it as a stroke. My mindset at the time was on God's mercy. I surrendered all my worries, lack of understanding, and Bob's condition to God and put complete trust in the outcome. Bob's recovery and ongoing life therapy has been greatly impacted by knowing God is in control. The Doctors couldn't explain Bob's ability to function after a major stroke. He could still swallow, walk, breathe. I knew we were blessed with each little thing Bob could do. I was thankful to the Lord from the beginning for the little things.

The Lord continues to prune and heal us every day. He fills us by His grace, and He provides us with all our needs. When we first came to Oregon, we lived with my mother. After Bob's stroke, we had to live in several different motels until he was able to travel back to Missouri. We were blessed to get into a rental property here in Waldport for several months after that trip. When our lease ended, we were basically homeless, and we had no place to live in Oregon again until the Lord directed us to this little place on the Bay. We feel blessed to know this is where the Lord wants us. I believe that all circumstances can be turned around with the attitude of Christ. God works for our good in All things.

We are blessed by our conditions and circumstances. The secret to this attitude-adjustment is trust in the Lord and His ways.

God is in control. He's got this one.

Say it! Believe it! Live it!

Blessed are the Attitudes

BLESSED ARE the weak and weary
For in Jesus they find confidence and power.

BLESSED ARE the blind
For they can see beyond the darkness to the truth.

BLESSED ARE the sick with cancers
For in their show of faith, they become Saints to the Cross.

BLESSED ARE those who experience loss
For they shall know the comfort of the Lord.

BLESSED ARE the homeless
For they are unburdened with earthly things.

BLESSED ARE the hungry and thirsty
For the Lord shall nourish them with His love.

BLESSED ARE those humbled from strokes
For they will know the Lord has touched them.

BLESSED ARE the servants and caregivers
For they show us the compassion and love of Christ.

