

IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES

Message: Count our blessings, not our problems

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 5:18

Did you hear about the earthquake they had down in Haiti? It was really bad. It destroyed thousands and thousands of houses, which means thousands and thousands of people don't have homes now. But there was one story on the news that I found really interesting. It was about a woman whose house was completely destroyed.

She was down the street when the earthquake hit. She noticed all the houses in the neighborhood begin to shake, so she ran back home to see if her house was still standing. When she got there she found that her house had completely crumbled – with her three children still inside!

Fortunately, she was able to dig them out. They had cuts and bruises all over, but at least they were all alive. And the woman said to the reporter, “I am truly blessed.”

Imagine that! Her house had been destroyed, she has no place to live, her three children were all banged up, but she felt truly blessed! Instead of complaining about what she lost, she was thankful for what she still had.

That woman was a living example of what it says in 1 Thessalonians, Chapter 5, verse 18. It says, “Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.” It doesn't say, “Give thanks only when things are going well.” It says, “Give thanks in all circumstances.”

I don't know about you, but if I even stub my toe I get pretty upset. I don't know what I'd do if my house was destroyed by an earthquake! But I'd like to think I'd be like that woman and feel I was blessed.

Wouldn't it be nice if we could all be like her? Wouldn't it be nice if we could all count our blessings instead of our problems? I don't know about you, but I'm going to work on that.

Before we go, let's pray for the people of Haiti. Heavenly Father, we pray that you will be with the thousands of people in Haiti who have lost their homes and have lost family members. Please protect them and give them comfort. Give them strength and give them courage. We pray this in Jesus' holy name. Amen.

Song: “Give Thanks”