

>> SINGING: GOOD NEWS TODAY. NO MATTER WHAT ELSE IS HAPPENING IN THE WORLD, THERE IS ALWAYS GOOD NEWS TODAY.

>> WELCOME TO GOOD NEWS TODAY, THE PROGRAM WHERE YOU WILL ALWAYS FIND GOOD NEWS, NO MATTER WHAT ELSE IS HAPPENING IN THE WORLD.

>> I'M MARK TESKE, YOUR HOST FOR GOOD NEWS TODAY. I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR JOINING US. AND WE'VE GOT A GREAT PROGRAM TODAY. HERE'S WHAT'S COMING UP. WE'RE GOING TO BEGIN WITH OUR DEVOTIONAL TIME, AND THAT CONSISTS OF OUR SCRIPTURE READING, BEAUTIFUL SINGING, AND A BRIEF STUDY OF THAT SCRIPTURE. TODAY WE WILL BE IN 2ND SAMUEL 12:20-23, WHERE WE SEE KING DAVID'S RESPONSE TO THE NEWS THAT HIS YOUNG CHILD HAS DIED. SO GET OUT YOUR BIBLES, TURN TO 2ND SAMUEL 12. I'M GOING TO MEET YOU THERE IN JUST A MOMENT. FOLLOWING OUR DEVOTIONAL TIME, WE HEAD OVER TO THE WORKSHOP FOR A VISIT WITH TROY SPRADLIN. HE'S WORKING ON REPAIRING OUR UNDERSTANDING ABOUT ONLINE WORSHIP AND THE NEED TO ATTEND WORSHIP IN PERSON. JIM DEARMAN WILL JOIN US WITH SOME SOUND WORDS ABOUT GROWING OLDER. KEE FORD SITS DOWN WITH BARRY GILREATH AS THEY DISCUSS WATCHING WORSHIP SERVICES FROM HOME. IN OUR FINAL SEGMENT, WE HAVE A BIBLE QUESTION FOR GUYTON MONTGOMERY AND TROY SPRADLIN: WILL NOT FORGIVING MYSELF KEEP ME OUT OF HEAVEN? WELL, I HOPE YOU HAVE YOUR BIBLES OPENED UP TO 2ND SAMUEL 12, WHERE WE READ BEGINNING IN VERSE 20, SO DAVID AROSE FROM THE GROUND, WASHED AND ANOINTED HIMSELF AND CHANGED HIS CLOTHES. AND HE WENT INTO THE HOUSE OF THE LORD AND WORSHIPED. THEN HE WENT TO HIS OWN HOUSE; AND WHEN HE REQUESTED, THEY SET FOOD BEFORE HIM, AND HE ATE. THEN HIS SERVANTS SAID TO HIM, WHAT IS THIS THAT YOU HAVE DONE? YOU FASTED AND WEPT FOR THE CHILD WHILE HE WAS ALIVE, BUT WHEN THE CHILD DIED, YOU AROSE AND ATE FOOD. AND HE SAID, WHILE THE CHILD WAS ALIVE, I FASTED AND WEPT; FOR I SAID, WHO CAN TELL WHETHER THE LORD WILL BE GRACIOUS TO ME, THAT THE CHILD MAY LIVE? BUT NOW HE IS DEAD, WHY SHOULD I FAST? CAN I BRING HIM BACK AGAIN? I SHALL GO TO HIM, BUT HE SHALL NOT RETURN TO ME.

>> (SINGING)

>> DAVID'S SIN WITH BATHSHEBA THAT'S RECORDED IN 2ND SAMUEL CHAPTER 11 RESULTED IN A CHILD BEING CONCEIVED. TO HIDE THAT SIN, DAVID HAD HER HUSBAND URIAH ABANDONED IN BATTLE, AND THAT RESULTED IN HIS DEATH. DAVID WAS CONFRONTED SOON AFTERWARDS BY THE PROPHET NATHAN ABOUT THESE SINS THAT HE HAD COMMITTED, THE SIN OF ADULTERY AND THE SIN OF MURDER. GOD CHOSE TO FORGIVE THE CONTRITE DAVID. THAT'S WHEN HE WROTE PSALM 51, A GREAT PSALM ABOUT REPENTANCE. BUT HE WAS TOLD THE CHILD WOULD DIE AS A RESULT OF HIS SIN. WHEN THE CHILD WAS BORN, HE BECAME ILL. AND DAVID FASTED AND PRAYED FOR THAT CHILD. THE CHILD STRUGGLED FOR HIS LIFE FOR SEVEN DAYS BEFORE PASSING AWAY. DAVID HEARD HIS SERVANTS MUMBLING, AND THEN THEY RELUCTANTLY TOLD HIM THAT THE BABY HAD DIED. THE PASSAGE WE'RE LOOKING AT TODAY STARTING IN VERSE 20 TELLS OF DAVID'S REACTION TO THE BABY'S PASSING. YOU SEE, DAVID STOPPED THE PROCESS OF FASTING; HE AROSE, HE WASHED, HE ANOINTED, AND HE CHANGED HIS CLOTHES. THOSE HAD BEEN ACTIONS OF A MAN HUMBLING HIMSELF BEFORE GOD. BUT WITH THE CHILD'S DEATH, GOD'S DECISION WAS FINAL, SO IT WAS TIME TO GO BACK TO LIFE. DAVID THEN WENT INTO THE HOUSE OF THE LORD AND HE WORSHIPED. WORSHIP IS ALWAYS ACCEPTABLE, EVEN WHEN LIFE IS HARD. I REMEMBER VISITING WITH A CONGREGATION THE DAY AFTER MY MOTHER'S FUNERAL. IT FELT GOOD TO BE AMONG THE BRETHREN WORSHIPING GOD. DAVID THEN ATE A MEAL. HE HADN'T EATEN IN A WEEK. HE HAD BEEN FASTING AND

PRAYING. THE SERVANTS MARVELED AT ALL THIS. WHEN THE CHILD WAS ALIVE, DAVID WAS PRAYING FOR HIS HEALING; NOW THAT THE CHILD IS DEAD, DAVID SAID I CAN'T CHANGE ANYTHING, WHICH IS NOT TYPICAL. TYPICALLY, PEOPLE WAIT TILL THE PERSON DIES, AND THEN THEY GO INTO A STAGE OF MOURNING. AND DAVID SAYS, I WILL GO TO HIM, BUT HE SHALL NOT RETURN TO ME; KNOWING WHERE THEY WOULD BE TOGETHER IN HEAVEN. SO AS WE TRY TO MAKE APPLICATION OF THIS TO OUR LIVES, WORSHIP IS IMPORTANT EVEN IN THE WORST OF TIMES. I HAVE A FRIEND WHOSE SON WAS MURDERED. HE TOOK COMFORT IN THE PSALMS. HE TOOK COMFORT IN BEING WITH BRETHREN EVEN AFTER THAT HORRIBLE TRAGEDY. THE PSALMS ARE PEOPLE POURING THEIR HEARTS OUT TO GOD. WE ALSO SEE THAT DAVID UNDERSTOOD THE POWER OF PRAYER. THE EFFECTIVE, FERVENT PRAYER OF A RIGHTEOUS MAN AVAILS MUCH, JAMES 5:16. A FORGIVEN MAN IS A RIGHTEOUS MAN; BUT EVEN SO, SOMETIMES GOD'S ANSWER IS NO. AND AT THE POINT OF DEATH, OUR ETERNITY IS SEALED. THE CHILD, WHO'S NOT YET ABLE TO SIN, WAS GOING TO HEAVEN. EZEKIEL 18:20, WE DON'T INHERIT SIN. SO WE DON'T PRAY FOR THE DECEASED, BUT FOR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS. HEBREWS 9:27 TELLS US IT'S APPOINTED FOR MEN TO DIE ONCE; AFTER THIS COMES THE JUDGMENT. BUT IF YOU'RE NOT READY, DEATH IS SOMETHING FOR YOU TO FEAR. YOU NEED TO BE SORROWFUL FOR YOUR SINS, MAKE A DECISION TO CHANGE YOUR LIFE, 2ND CORINTHIANS 7:9-10; CONFESS THAT JESUS IS THE CHRIST, ROMANS 10:9-10; BE BAPTIZED IN WATER AND WASH AWAY YOUR SINS, ACTS 22:16; AND THEN CONTINUE WALKING IN THE LIGHT AND GET THAT CONTINUAL CLEANSING OF SINS, 1ST JOHN 6:10. FOR THE CHRISTIAN, HAVING AN ETERNITY IN HEAVEN IS QUITE THE BLESSING. AND THAT'S GOOD NEWS FOR US TODAY. WELL, IT'S TIME TO HEAD OVER TO THE WORKSHOP, WHERE TROY SPRADLIN IS WAITING FOR US. HE'S GOING TO BE REPAIRING OUR UNDERSTANDING ABOUT OUR CHURCH ATTENDANCE, AND HE'S GOING TO BE ASKING A FEW IMPORTANT QUESTIONS.

>> THE SHUTDOWNS THAT HAPPENED DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC HAVE TURNED OUT TO BE THE CAUSE OF MANY DETRIMENTAL AND LONG-LASTING CONSEQUENCES. AND APART FROM ALL THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, AND PSYCHOLOGICAL REPERCUSSIONS, IT CAUSED, PERHAPS THE WORST IS WHAT IT DID TO WORSHIP ATTENDANCES ACROSS THE GLOBE. YOU SEE, THERE ARE MANY CONGREGATIONS THAT HAVE STILL NOT RETURNED TO THEIR PRE-COVID NUMBERS. AND EVEN AFTER ALL THIS TIME, THERE ARE STILL MANY CONGREGANTS WHO ARE WORSHIPPING ONLINE AND USING VARIOUS EXCUSES FOR NOT ATTENDING IN PERSON. NOW, I CERTAINLY RECOGNIZE THAT THERE CAN BE LEGITIMATE CIRCUMSTANCES TO PREVENT A CHRISTIAN FROM BEING ABLE TO ATTEND WORSHIP SERVICES; BUT MAYBE WE STILL NEED TO REPAIR OUR UNDERSTANDING ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF ASSEMBLING OURSELVES TOGETHER AS THE LORD'S BODY FOR WORSHIP. SO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS CONCERNING WORSHIP. NUMBER ONE, IS PLEASING GOD IMPORTANT TO YOU? JESUS TAUGHT HIS DISCIPLES, IF YOU LOVE ME, YOU'LL KEEP MY COMMANDMENTS, IN JOHN 14:15. HE ALSO SAID THAT ONLY THOSE WHO FULFILL THE WILL OF GOD WILL ENTER INTO THE KINGDOM IN MATTHEW 7:21. SO WITH THAT IN MIND, LISTEN TO WHAT HE TOLD THE WOMAN AT THE WELL: BUT THE HOUR IS COMING AND IS NOW HERE WHEN THE TRUE WORSHIPPERS WILL WORSHIP THE FATHER IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH; FOR THE FATHER IS SEEKING SUCH PEOPLE TO WORSHIP HIM, JOHN 4:23. SO THAT MEANS THAT IT IS GOD'S DESIRE, IT'S HIS WILL THAT YOU AND I WORSHIP HIM TOGETHER. THEREFORE, IF WE TRULY WANT TO BE PLEASING TO GOD, THEN WE MUST WORSHIP HIM AND DO IT IN THE WAY HE DESCRIBED IN THE BIBLE. NOW, QUESTION NUMBER TWO. ARE YOU THANKFUL FOR WHAT GOD HAS DONE FOR YOU? DO YOU FULLY UNDERSTAND THE SCHEME OF REDEMPTION, MEANING THAT SACRIFICE THAT GOD AND JESUS MADE ON YOUR AND MY BEHALF, AS WE SEE IN JOHN 3:16? YOU KNOW, THAT SHOULD BE ENOUGH TO MOTIVATE YOU AND ME TO WORSHIP GOD. IF YOU AND I ARE THANKFUL FOR GOD'S

GIFT OF SALVATION, THEN WHY NOT SHOW IT BY WORSHIPING HIM WITH THE ASSEMBLY OF THE SAINTS? QUESTION NUMBER THREE: DO YOU WANT THE BEST FOR YOUR FAMILY AND FOR YOURSELF? YOU SEE, THE TRUTH IS, EDIFICATION AND KNOWLEDGE AND BROTHERLY LOVE ARE BETTER DEVELOPED IN A CORPORATE SETTING; AND THEY CERTAINLY CAN'T BE INCREASED IN SOLITUDE. THE SIMPLE ACT OF BEING AROUND FELLOW CHRISTIANS CAN HAVE A MAJOR POSITIVE IMPACT ON ONE'S SPIRITUAL LIFE. AND WITH SO MANY NEGATIVE INFLUENCES IN THE WORLD, WE CERTAINLY NEED MORE POSITIVE REINFORCEMENT. YOU SEE, THE CHURCH CAN PROVIDE THAT FOR YOU AND ME ACCORDING TO SCRIPTURES LIKE JOHN 13:35 AND GALATIANS 6:2 AND 1ST THESSALONIANS 5:11. THAT'S BECAUSE IT'S A BODY, IT'S A FAMILY, ONE THAT CRIES AND REJOICES TOGETHER. SO WORSHIP IS YET ANOTHER WAY TO BUILD EACH OTHER UP, AS WE SEE IN COLOSSIANS 3:16; AND THAT CAN ONLY HAPPEN WHEN WE COME TOGETHER AS HIS CHURCH. LASTLY, IS THE SALVATION OF YOUR SOUL IMPORTANT TO YOU? YOU SEE, ACCORDING TO 2ND TIMOTHY 2:10, SALVATION IS IN CHRIST JESUS. THAT MEANS ONE MUST BE IN HIS BODY TO BE SAVED. AND THAT NATURALLY IMPLIES THAT ONE CANNOT BE SAVED OUTSIDE THE CHURCH OR THE BODY. YOU SEE, THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS ISOLATION SALVATION PRESENTED IN THE SCRIPTURES. SO ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT IN THE CHURCH WITHIN THE BODY OF CHRIST IS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY. JUST BEING A MEMBER IS NOT ALL THAT'S REQUIRED OF A DISCIPLE; WORSHIP, THEREFORE, IS CONNECTED TO OUR SALVATION. NOW, IF YOU ANSWERED NO TO ANY OF THE QUESTIONS THAT I JUST ASKED, WELL THEN MAYBE YOU NEED TO CHECK YOUR HEART, BECAUSE GOD ONLY WANTS THOSE WHO WILL WORSHIP HIM IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH. YOU MIGHT ALSO PONDER THIS: IF YOU DON'T LIKE ASSEMBLING WITH THE SAINTS TO WORSHIP GOD, IF YOU DON'T LOOK FORWARD TO LIFTING UP HIS NAME EVERY OPPORTUNITY THAT YOU HAVE WITH YOUR BRETHREN, WELL, WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING TO BE DOING IN HEAVEN? YOU SEE, IF WE TRULY WANT TO BE PREPARED FOR HEAVEN, THEN LET'S WORSHIP OUR GOD BY HEEDING THE WORDS OF HEBREWS 10:25, NOT FORSAKING THE ASSEMBLING OF OURSELVES TOGETHER AS IS THE MANNER OF SOME, BUT EXHORTING ONE ANOTHER SO MUCH MORE AS YOU SEE THE DAY APPROACHING.

>> THANKS, TROY. THOSE WERE SOME EXCELLENT QUESTIONS THAT WE NEED TO ANSWER HONESTLY. IT'S TIME TO GRAB SOME PAPER AND SOMETHING TO WRITE WITH SO YOU CAN WRITE DOWN OUR CONTACT INFORMATION. WE'D LOVE TO SEND YOU A BIBLE COURSE. AFTER THAT, JIM DEARMAN WILL JOIN US.

>> YOU MAY HAVE QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS ABOUT GOOD NEWS TODAY. WE'D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU. OR IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE FREE BIBLE STUDY MATERIALS, PLEASE CONTACT US. OUR MAILING ADDRESS IS GOOD NEWS TODAY, P.O. BOX 206, DUNLAP, TENNESSEE, 37327. AGAIN, THAT'S GOOD NEWS TODAY, P.O. BOX 206, DUNLAP, TENNESSEE, 37327. YOU MAY PREFER TO E-MAIL US AT GOODNEWTODAYTV@GMAIL.COM. THAT'S GOODNEWTODAYTV@GMAIL.COM. OR CALL US TOLL-FREE AT 1-877-384-7221. THAT'S 1-877-384-7221. WE'D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU. HEARING FROM OUR AUDIENCE IS ALWAYS GOOD NEWS TO US.

>> YOU CAN ALWAYS GO TO OUR WEBSITE, GNTTV.ORG, AND ENROLL FOR THE BIBLE COURSE THERE. YOU CAN ALSO HEAR GOOD NEWS TODAY ON TRUTH.FM, WHICH IS A GROUP OF INTERNET RADIO STATIONS STREAMING 24/7. THEY'VE GOT A CHANNEL THERE THAT PLAYS NOTHING BUT GOOD NEWS TODAY. NOW HERE'S JIM DEARMAN WITH SOME SOUND WORDS FOR US ABOUT GROWING OLDER.

>> HOW DO YOU VIEW GROWING OLDER? THE POET WROTE, AGE IS A QUALITY OF MIND. IF YOU'VE LEFT YOUR DREAMS BEHIND, IF HOPE IS COLD, IF YOU NO LONGER LOOK AHEAD, IF YOUR AMBITION FIRES ARE DEAD, THEN YOU ARE OLD. WELL,

THERE'S A LOT OF TRUTH IN THAT VERSE; BUT THERE'S NOTHING BUT TRUTH IN THE BIBLE, AND IN IT WE ARE TOLD TO LABOR TO ENTER INTO THE ETERNAL REST OF GOD PREPARED FOR HIS FAITHFUL. THAT'S HEBREWS 4:11. THAT INDICATES LABOR UNTIL WE DIE. THUS, REGARDLESS OF AGE, GOD RECOGNIZES OUR VALUE TO HIM AND TO HIS CAUSE HERE ON EARTH. I KNOW OF NO OTHER SERVICE OTHER THAN SERVICE TO GOD AS A CHRISTIAN WHERE ONE'S TALENTS CAN BE USED SO EXTENSIVELY AND SO CONTINUALLY. AS A CHRISTIAN, WE CAN ALWAYS BE OF USE TO THE SAVIOR. AS WE REACH OLD AGE, WE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO DO ALL THAT WE ONCE COULD DO PHYSICALLY, BUT WE CAN DO SOMETHING. AND THE AGED CHRISTIAN WHO HAS GROWN IN GRACE AND KNOWLEDGE OF THE WORD OVER THE YEARS CAN BE OF INESTIMABLE VALUE TO THOSE WHO ARE YOUNGER IN THE FAITH, BOTH BY TEACHING AND BY EXAMPLE. LET US DETERMINE TO LIVE AND LABOR FOR THE LORD UNTIL WE DIE.

>> JIM KEEPS LABORING IN THE KINGDOM AND CONTINUES TO DO WHAT HE'S VERY CAPABLE OF DOING. THANKS FOR THAT, JIM. HAVE YOU EVER MISSED AN EPISODE OF GOOD NEWS TODAY AND WISH YOU COULD WATCH IT? HERE'S A FEW WAYS YOU CAN DO THAT: OUR WEBSITE, OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL, OR IF YOU DOWNLOAD OUR APP, YOU CAN WATCH IT ON YOUR PHONE OR TABLET. WE HAVE A CHANNEL ON ROKU, APPLE TV, GOOGLE TV, AND FIRE TV, SO YOU CAN WATCH IT ON YOUR TELEVISION FROM ANY OF THOSE PLATFORMS. NEW PROGRAM IS THERE EVERY SUNDAY, SO YOU NEVER HAVE TO MISS AN EPISODE. TIME FOR KEE FORD TO SIT DOWN WITH BARRY GILREATH AS THEY DISCUSS WATCHING WORSHIP SERVICES ONLINE FROM HOME.

>> KEE FORD IS BACK WITH US TODAY, AND HE'S GOING TO GIVE US SOME KEE THOUGHTS, RIGHT? WE'RE TALKING ABOUT TODAY IN THIS SHORT SEGMENT ON FABRIC FAMILY, WE'RE TALKING ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF OUR PARTICIPATION IN WORSHIP SERVICE, BUT SPECIFICALLY AS IT RELATES TO WHAT HAS BECOME SORT OF A PHENOMENON THAT YOU'RE SEEING AMONGST CHURCHES TODAY, AND THAT IS HAVING ONLINE SERVICES. OF COURSE, I SUPPOSE SINCE WE'VE HAD ACCESS TO THE INTERNET, THERE'S BEEN THIS TO SOME DEGREE; BUT I GUESS WITH THE COVID THAT WE HAD IN RECENT TIMES AND ALL, THAT MAYBE WE'RE SEEING MORE AND MORE OF THIS. AND SO SOMEBODY HAS RAISED THE QUESTION THAT WE WANT TO ADDRESS TODAY AS IT RELATES TO THEIR MATE. ONE MATE WANTS TO BE IN THE ASSEMBLY WITH THE SAINTS, WORSHIPING; THE OTHER MATE SAYS, HUH-UH, I CAN JUST STAY AT HOME AND I CAN WATCH THE SERVICES. AND KEE, WHAT'S YOUR THOUGHTS ABOUT THAT? WHAT DO CHRISTIANS NEED TO BE THINKING ABOUT ALONG THIS LINE?

>> YOU KNOW, THE WAY I ALWAYS APPROACH THIS, ESPECIALLY SINCE THIS PANDEMIC THAT HAS HAPPENED AND HAS LEFT US KIND OF IN SHAMBLES AND WE'RE TRYING TO REBUILD, HANDLE WITH LOVE. THAT'S THE FIRST STEP WE NEED TO MAKE. BUT WE HAVE TO STAND FIRM ON TRUTH. I OFTEN TELL PEOPLE, WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE MARRIED VIRTUALLY? THERE'S SO MANY THINGS THAT I CAN THINK ABOUT IN THE WORLD THAT I WOULD LIKE TO DO, BUT A LOT OF THOSE THINGS I WOULDN'T WANT TO DO VIRTUALLY. IF I HAD TO BE MARRIED VIRTUALLY AND RAISE EIGHT CHILDREN WITH MY WIFE, I THINK MY WIFE WILL BEAT ME UP IF I WASN'T PRESENT TO DO THOSE THINGS. YOU KNOW, I SAY THAT BEING LIGHTHEARTED, BUT THEN I WANT TO THINK ABOUT THE FACT ABOUT WHEN WE COME TOGETHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE.

>> YEAH.

>> THAT IS A BEAUTIFUL BLESSING FOR US TO BE IN THE PRESENCE OF EACH OTHER. WHEN WE STUDY ISRAEL OF OLD, WE SEE HOW THOSE PEOPLE WERE TOGETHER. IT SHOULD BREAK OUR HEARTS WHEN WE'RE NOT WITH EACH OTHER PHYSICALLY. NOW,

I DO KNOW THAT THERE ARE CERTAIN THINGS THAT HAPPEN. YOU KNOW, YOU HAVE PEOPLE WHO ARE SHUT IN, YOU HAVE ALL THOSE THINGS. WE'RE NOT TALKING ABOUT THOSE PEOPLE.

>> AND THAT'S ORIGINALLY WHAT THESE ONLINE SERVICES WERE MADE AVAILABLE FOR IS FOR THOSE WHO PHYSICALLY COULD NOT, LIKE YOU SAID, GET OUT OF THEIR HOME, OR MAYBE AS A TOOL OF EVANGELISM FOR THOSE WHO ARE IN THE WORLD TO BE ABLE TO LOOK INTO TO THE CHURCH SOMEWHAT AND TO LEARN ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE WHO MAY NOT NECESSARILY JUST WALK INTO THE BUILDING OFF OF THE STREET. BUT UNFORTUNATELY, I THINK THAT SOME CHRISTIANS BECAME SO COMFORTABLE WITH IT DURING A TIME IN WHICH THERE WAS A LEGITIMATE NEED, PERHAPS, TO ACCESS THIS TYPE OF TECHNOLOGY MORE, SOME HAVE NEVER COME BACK.

>> AND THAT'S SAD. I WOULD ENCOURAGE THEM TO REALLY THINK ABOUT WHAT THEY'RE DOING, BECAUSE IF IT AFFECTS THE BODY, I SHOULD BE CONCERNED ABOUT IT. AND I DO KNOW THAT WE DO SOMETIMES PLACE A LOT OF EMPHASIS ON THE BUILDING. IT'S NOT EVEN JUST A BUILDING; IT'S JUST A COMING TOGETHER OF GOD'S PEOPLE. AND AGAIN, IF ONE SAYS THAT, HEY, WELL, I DID IT VIRTUALLY, SO I WAS THERE WITH YOU, YOU CAN'T COMPARE. YOU KNOW, WE GO TO POLISHING THE PULPIT AND THINGS, AND YOU HAVE 5,000 PEOPLE TOGETHER, COMING TO WORSHIP, IT IS POWERFUL, IT IS BEAUTIFUL. THAT'S THE WAY GOD INTENDED FOR WORSHIP TO BE, FOR US TO BE TOGETHER.

>> AND WE'RE NOT JUST TO APPROACH WORSHIP FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF BEING A CONSUMER. WE'RE ACTUALLY TO BE INVOLVED, A PARTICIPANT. AND SOMEONE SAYS, WELL, I CAN SING FROM MY HOME. WELL, THAT MAY BE TRUE; BUT THERE IS ANOTHER ASPECT TO IT IN WHICH YOU ARE TO MUTUALLY EDIFY ONE ANOTHER, SPEAKING TO YOURSELVES IN PSALMS AND HYMNS AND SPIRITUAL SONGS, SINGING AND MAKING MELODY IN YOUR HEARTS TO THE LORD. AND THERE ARE SOME THINGS THAT I'M LIMITED ON AS FAR AS WHAT I CAN AND CAN'T DO WHEN I'M LOOKING AT A COMPUTER SCREEN. NOW, AS YOU SAID, AND RIGHTFULLY SO, THERE'S CERTAIN SITUATIONS IN WHICH PEOPLE ARE DOING THE BEST THEY CAN UNDER THEIR CIRCUMSTANCES; BUT THIS IDEA OF I CAN BE A CHRISTIAN AND CAN WORSHIP THROUGH THE INTERNET, I DON'T HAVE TO BE A PART OF A GROUP OR NEED TO BE A PART OF A GROUP, THAT'S JUST ABSOLUTELY FALSE.

>> IT'S DANGEROUS.

>> THINK ABOUT OUR CHILDREN DURING THE HEIGHT OF THE PANDEMIC AND HOW THAT MANY SCHOOLS WENT TO VIRTUAL STUDIES AND HOW THAT THE UNDERSTANDING THE CHILDREN WERE GETTING, THEIR GRADES, EVERYTHING JUST BEGAN TO CRASH DOWN, BECAUSE IT'S NOT THE SAME. AND IF YOU'RE DOING THE BEST YOU CAN, THAT'S ONE THING; BUT UNFORTUNATELY, SOME ARE USING THAT, I'M AFRAID, AS A CRUTCH.

>> YOU'RE RIGHT.

>> KEE, I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR THOUGHTS AGAIN TODAY ON FABRIC OF FAMILY.

>> YES, SIR.

>> THINGS LIKE THIS PROGRAM, ONLINE RESOURCES, AND PODCASTS ARE MEANT TO SUPPLEMENT IN-PERSON WORSHIP, NOT REPLACE THEM. THANKS, GENTLEMEN. IF YOU ENJOY LISTENING TO PODCASTS, WE NOW HAVE THREE OF THEM AVAILABLE WHEREVER YOU GET YOUR PODCASTS. EVERY DAY, A NEW EPISODE OF GOOD NEWS TODAY DAILY DEVOTIONAL TIME GETS RELEASED. IT'S A GREAT WAY TO START YOUR DAY WITH A DAILY DOSE OF GOOD NEWS. EVERY WEEK, THERE'S A NEW EPISODE OF GOOD NEWS TODAY WEEKLY, AND SOUND WORDS WITH JIM DEARMAN. IN JUST A MOMENT, WE'LL GIVE OUR BIBLE QUESTION TO GUYTON MONTGOMERY AND TROY SPRADLIN.

>> (SINGING)

>> NOW WE HAVE A BIBLE QUESTION FOR GUYTON AND TROY: WILL NOT FORGIVING MYSELF KEEP ME OUT OF HEAVEN?

>> TROY, I'VE GOT A QUESTION.

>> OKAY, WHAT YOU GOT?

>> IF I PUNCHED YOU IN THE FACE, WOULD YOU FORGIVE ME?

>> MAYBE NOT IMMEDIATELY, BUT YES, AS A CHRISTIAN, I DEFINITELY HAVE TO FORGIVE YOU IF I WANT TO BE FORGIVEN.

>> ALL RIGHT. JUST FOR CLARIFICATION, I'M NOT GOING TO.

>> THANK YOU.

>> BUT LET'S SAY I GOT MAD AND I GOT ANGRY, LOST MY TEMPER, AND I DID THAT, I WOULD FEEL HORRIBLE LATER.

>> YOU SHOULD.

>> AND KNOWING YOU, I BELIEVE THERE'S NO DOUBT IN MY MIND YOU WOULD FORGIVE ME; BUT I DON'T KNOW THAT I WOULD EVER TRULY BE ABLE TO FORGIVE MYSELF FOR THAT, BECAUSE NOT ONLY DID I NOT FULFILL SCRIPTURE AND BE YE ANGRY AND SIN NOT, BUT I WOULD ALWAYS EVERY TIME I SAW YOU ALMOST BE LIKE, MAN -

>> BE REMINDED OF IT?

>> YEAH, AFTER I MISTREATED YOU.

>> ESPECIALLY THAT BLACK EYE THAT I WOULD HAVE.

>> ALL RIGHT. SO WE USE THAT AS AN EXAMPLE TO INTRODUCE TODAY'S QUESTION: I KNOW THAT I HAVE GOD'S FORGIVENESS AND FORGIVENESS OF OTHERS, BUT I CAN'T FORGIVE MYSELF.

>> OH, OKAY.

>> AND THEY WANT TO KNOW WILL THEY WILL GO TO HELL BECAUSE OF THIS.

>> OH, WOW. WOW. WELL, I WAS WONDERING WHERE YOU WERE GOING WITH THIS. THAT'S A PRETTY HEAVY QUESTION.

>> YEAH, IT REALLY IS, AND MULTIFACETED. AND LET ME JUST START BY SAYING THAT REMEMBER GOD'S GRACE AND MERCY AS THE RIGHTEOUS JUDGE IS THE ONE THAT DETERMINES WHETHER YOU GO TO HELL OR NOT. WE ARE ALL IN NEED OF THE MERCY AND GRACE OF GOD THAT WE FIND IN JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD.

>> AMEN.

>> SO WE'RE GOING TO LEAVE HIM TO BE THE JUDGE. I'M NOT GOING TO SAY WHO'S GOING TO HEAVEN, WHO'S GOING TO HELL.

>> YEAH. LET ME JUST REINFORCE THAT. IN EPHESIANS 2:8 IT SAYS, FOR BY GRACE YOU HAVE BEEN SAVED THROUGH FAITH, AND NOT OF YOURSELVES. AND SO LET GOD BE THE JUDGE. LET GOD BE WHO HE IS.

>> SO LET'S BREAK THIS DOWN. DO WE NEED GOD'S FORGIVENESS?

>> YES, WE DO NEED GOD'S FORGIVENESS.

>> ALL RIGHT. AND SO HOW DO WE GET THAT?

>> WE GET IT THROUGH OBEDIENCE AND SUBMITTING TO HIS WILL.

>> OKAY. SO GOD'S FORGIVENESS IS NEEDED. I'VE OBTAINED THAT, AND THAT'S REQUIRED, IT'S PART OF GOD'S LAW. SO WE'VE ANSWERED IT. SO SECOND QUESTION: DO WE NEED OTHER PEOPLE'S FORGIVENESS?

>> WE DO. WE DO. IN FACT, THAT'S WHAT JESUS TEACHES IN THE MODEL PRAYER, THAT WE NEED TO FORGIVE OTHERS AS WE HAVE BEEN FORGIVEN.

>> SO NOT ONLY DO WE NEED OTHER PEOPLE'S FORGIVENESS; WE NEED TO BE WILLING TO GIVE IT TO OTHER PEOPLE.

>> THAT'S RIGHT.

>> ALL RIGHT. SO WHERE IN THE BIBLE DO I FIND THAT WE HAVE TO FORGIVE OURSELVES?

>> I CAN'T THINK OF A SINGLE VERSE, I MEAN, UNLESS THERE'S A PRINCIPLE SOMEWHERE, BUT I CAN'T THINK OF A VERSE THAT ACTUALLY SAYS THAT.

>> I CAN'T. IN FACT, I THINK ABOUT THE APOSTLE PAUL A LOT, BECAUSE IN GALATIANS 1:13, HE TALKS ABOUT THE PERSECUTION HE MADE OF THE CHURCH. IF YOU REMEMBER BACK WHEN STEPHEN WAS STONED, HE WAS THERE CONSENTING UNTO THE DEATH. AND THEN YOU GO TO 1ST CORINTHIANS 15:10, BUT BY THE GRACE OF GOD, I AM WHAT I AM; AND HIS GRACE, WHICH WAS BESTOWED UPON ME WAS NOT IN VAIN. WHY DID HE KNOW HE NEEDED GOD'S GRACE? BECAUSE HE REMEMBERED THE THINGS HE DID. SO I THINK THE IMPORTANT PART IN FORGIVING SELF, WHILE IT'S NOT COMMAND IN SCRIPTURE, SO WOULD YOU BE GOING TO HELL OVER IT? I DON'T BELIEVE SO. BUT WHAT YOU DO NEED TO DO IS REALIZE IS THAT I HAVE SINNED, I FEEL SORRY FOR THAT, I HAVE REMORSE, BUT I'VE REPENTED, I'VE DONE EVERYTHING I CAN; AND NOW BECAUSE I AM A CHILD OF GOD, I HAVE THE FORGIVENESS THAT'S NEEDED, AND SO I'M NOT GOING TO TAKE IT FOR GRANTED.

AND IN FACT, MAYBE IT'S A GOOD THING WE REMEMBER THE CONDITION WHERE WE WERE AND WHERE WE ARE TODAY.

>> AMEN.

>> WE'D LIKE TO ENCOURAGE YOU TO WORSHIP IN PERSON ON THE FIRST DAY OF EVERY WEEK IF YOU'RE ABLE. IF YOU'D LIKE TO KNOW WHERE YOU CAN HEAR TEACHING AND SINGING LIKE YOU HEAR ON THIS PROGRAM, CONTACT US. WE'LL GET YOU IN TOUCH WITH A CONGREGATION IN YOUR AREA. AND REMEMBER, WE ALWAYS ENCOURAGE YOU TO CHECK ALL RELIGIOUS TEACHING AGAINST THE WORD OF GOD. BE LIKE THOSE BEREANS IN ACTS 17:11. SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES AND SEE IF THESE THINGS ARE SO. IF YOU'D LIKE TO WATCH OR LISTEN TO OUR PROGRAM AGAIN, YOU CAN DO IT AND HAVE EXTRA TIME TO CHECK THE SCRIPTURES FOR YOURSELF. YOU CAN DO THAT THROUGH OUR WEBSITE, THROUGH OUR APPS, OR THROUGH OUR PODCASTS. IF YOU STILL HAVE A QUESTION, CONTACT US. WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU. WE MIGHT EVEN ANSWER YOUR QUESTION ON OUR PROGRAM. REMEMBER, WE LOVE YOU, WE'RE PRAYING FOR YOU, AND WE WANT YOU TO MAKE IT TO HEAVEN.

>> SINGING: GOOD NEWS TODAY