

Attitude of Gratitude

Day Eight: Gratitude for His Plan, Not Mine

Scripture: *“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”* — Jeremiah 29:11

One of the hardest parts of gratitude is learning to thank God even when life doesn't unfold according to our plans. We like control. We like clarity. We like knowing the “why” behind every detour. But God's wisdom is higher than ours, and His plan often takes us places we would never choose on our own.

When doors close, when timing feels delayed, when prayers don't get answered the way we imagined—it's tempting to doubt God's goodness. But gratitude in these moments says, *“Lord, I may not understand, but I trust You know what's best.”*

Thanking God for His plan—even when it's different from ours—develops humility, faith, and peace. Gratitude shifts us from *demanding control* to *resting in His care*.

Think of a GPS. Sometimes it takes you on routes that don't make sense—back roads, detours, longer stretches through unfamiliar territory. You may feel like it's the wrong way, but what you can't see is the traffic jam, accident, or roadblock up ahead. The GPS is rerouting to protect you and guide you where you need to be.

God's plan works the same way. From your perspective, it may feel confusing or frustrating. But from His perspective, He is always leading you

to His best. Gratitude says, “Thank You, Lord, for rerouting me, even when I don’t see the reason.”

Jeremiah 29:11 wasn’t spoken to people in comfort—it was spoken to exiles in Babylon. Their world felt upside down, yet God reassured them He still had a future filled with hope. Gratitude in the waiting reminds us that His timing is perfect, His plan is good, and His ways are higher than ours.

When you can be grateful not just for what *you* planned, but for what *He* planned—you step into deeper trust and unshakable peace.

Reflection Questions:

- Where in your life have you been frustrated that your plan didn’t work out?
- How might gratitude help you shift from disappointment to trust?
- Can you look back and thank God for a time when His plan was better than yours?

Prayer:

Father, thank You that Your ways are higher than mine and Your plan is always good. Forgive me for the times I’ve clung to my own agenda more than trusting Yours. Help me to rest in the truth that You see the bigger picture. Today, I choose gratitude—not just for what I planned, but for what You are doing, even when I don’t yet understand. In Jesus Name We Pray, Amen.