SHOWING THANKFULNESS

November 22, 2020

Bible Readings

Take a few minutes to read the Bible verses listed and ask the Holy Spirit to lead you in how this verse applies to you this week.
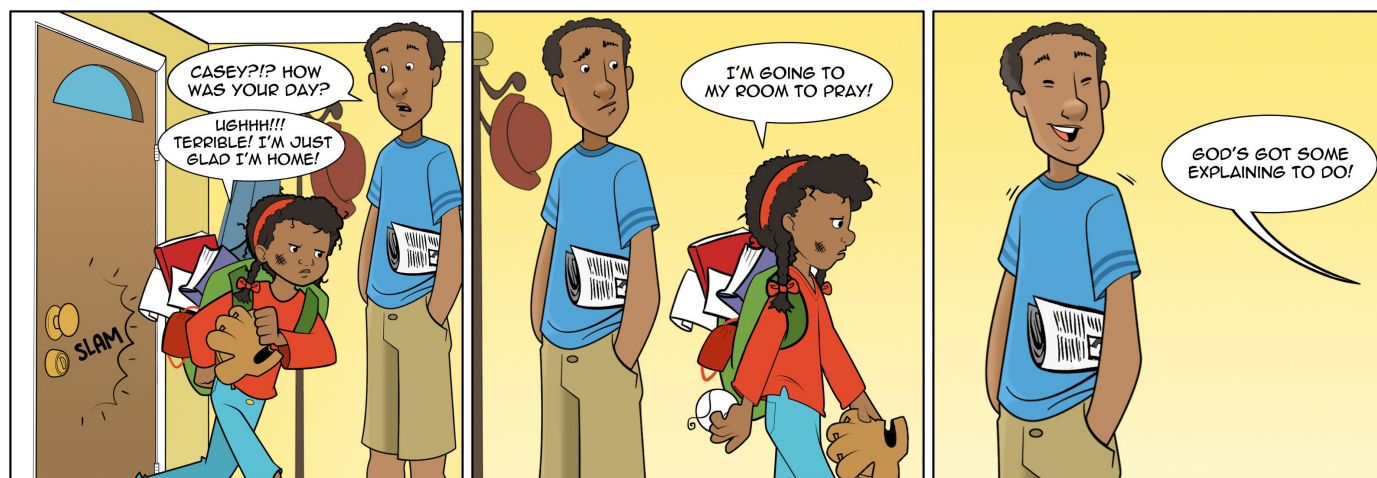
Psalm 8:1-9

Memory Verse

"Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" (NIV)

1 Thessalonians 5:18

CASEY'S DAY

written by Ron VandenBurg
illustrated by Chad Thompson

Have you read *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day*? He wakes up with gum in his hair. The dentist discovers that he has a cavity. And he has to eat lima beans for supper. Picture all that and ask yourself, "Could I be thankful to God even during a day as bad as that?"

The Apostle Paul was put in prison for preaching about Jesus. From prison, he wrote about the difficulties of being in chains, but he also talked about the importance of giving "thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" (1 Thessalonians 5:18). Paul's days were likely much worse than Alexander's terrible, horrible, no good, very bad day. Yet even from prison, Paul gives thanks to God. Why? Paul knows that his loving God is helping him through the hard times and he knows that God has a plan for him, which gives him hope.

Giving thanks when bad things happen is hard. But it's not about thanking God for the gum in your hair, the cavity in your tooth, or the lima beans on your plate. It's about thanking God for being with you, even when

things are hard. So, next time you're having a difficult day, close your eyes, and remember God. Remember he loves you, and is with you, and will bring you through even the worst of days.

Prayer

Heavenly father, thank you for being with me, even when I am having a terrible, horrible, no good, very bad day. Thank you for the good days. Help me to find the good things in every day and praise your name, even when it's hard. Amen.

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written by Ron VandenBurg

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