

Corinthians 4:8-10; 11:23-33). Time and time again he found help and hope by turning to the Lord.

How about you? How did you respond the last time something went wrong? Did you fall apart? If so, you need to ask God for patience and a positive perspective to handle life's setbacks in a mature Christian way (James 1:2-5). When things go wrong, ask God for strength and wisdom. Then thank Him for working to increase your faith. —DCE

*Oh, give me a grateful heart,
A heart that's tried and true,
So that when troubles and trials come
I'll still be praising You. —Hawkes*

Tough times teach trust.



Central Mountains Baptist Church

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When Things Go Wrong

We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair. —2 Corinthians 4:8



One measure of our spiritual maturity is the way we respond when things go wrong. If we give in to despair, doubt God's existence, or strike out at some innocent person, we have some growing up to do.

Explorer Samuel Hearne (1745-1792) was on an expedition in northern Canada when a crucial piece of charting equipment broke. So he had to turn back. Then, thieves stole most of his supplies. Hearne responded in an unexpected way. In his journal he wrote, "As the ravagers had materially lightened my load, . . . this part of the journey was the easiest and most pleasant of any I had experienced since my leaving the fort."

Back in the first century, as the apostle Paul travelled from town to town proclaiming the gospel, he faced opposition and desperate situations (2



Heart Song

A Grateful Heart

1 Corinthians 10:11 — 11 Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.

Ephesians 1:3 — 3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,

There are five reasons to give thanks in Psalm 107:

1. Our _____, verses 1-7

Deuteronomy 15:15 — 15 You shall remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the Lord your God redeemed you;



2. Our _____, verses 8—14

Matthew 5:6 — 6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, For they shall be filled.

Philippians 4:11-13 — 11 Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content: 12 I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. 13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

1 Timothy 6:6-8 — 6 Now godliness with contentment is great gain. 7 For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. 8 And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content.

Luke 4:18 — 18 "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed;

Matthew 4:16 — 16 The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, And upon those who sat in the region and shadow of death Light has dawned."

Acts 16:25 — 25 But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them.



3. Our _____ and _____, verses 15-20

4. Our _____, verses 21-30

1 Peter 4:3-4 — 3 For we have spent enough of our past lifetime in doing the will of the Gentiles— when we walked in lewdness, lusts, drunkenness, revelries, drinking parties, and abominable idolatries. 4 In regard to these, they think it strange that you do not run with them in the same flood of dissipation, speaking evil of you.



5. His _____, verses 31-43

Revelation 15:3 They sing the song .. of the Lamb, saying: "Great and marvelous are Your works, Lord God Almighty! Just and true are Your ways, O King of the saints!"

