

“Embrace Problems as Gifts”
Dr. Mark Foster
Disrupted: Week 6
May 24, 2020

Principle 1: Say Yes to God, Psalm 145:8-9

Principle 2: Choose your Traveling Companions Wisely, Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

Principle 3: Seek Wisdom: Ask, Search, Knock, Matthew 7:7

Principle 4: Leave Your Baggage Behind, Psalm 103:11-12

Principle 5: Own Your Stuff, John 8:32

Two Perspectives on the World and the Problems of Life:

1. People who focus on solving the _____. Matthew 6:25-34
Jesus is saying, “Don’t be like people without _____ who worry all the time.”
Rather, love God and love _____ with our eyes toward heaven. Matthew 7:1-3, 12
Leave the _____ to God.
2. People who go _____ the problem. Philippians 3:20
Because we belong to _____ we can rejoice and have peace. Philippians 4:4-7
Rather than praying, “God, get me out of this,” we pray, “God, get into this!”
God is not as concerned about getting us out of problems as in getting us _____ them.
Jesus, the Great Physician, has _____ for us, which often includes pain.

How to Embrace Problems as Gifts

Expect _____ to be a regular part of life for everyone.

“All our resistance does nothing to alter the reality of pain.” – Dr. Henry Cloud

Embrace pain as a _____ or indicator of a deeper issue to take to God.

Our problems can be gifts _____ we bring them to God. James 1:2-5

“God is less concerned about your immediate comfort than about your long-term growth.”

Dr. Henry Cloud and Dr. John Townsend

Some Benefits of Problems

Problems bring us to the end of _____.

We can allow our problems to turn us _____. Hebrews 12:1-2

When a solution is beyond us, God is _____.

We can allow our problems to give us the courage to look _____ at the truth.

You Can:

1. Give up _____ about pain and problems.
2. Accept that pain is a part of real _____.
3. Accept that we don’t have all the _____.
4. Accept that problems will _____ be around us.
5. Accept that some problems will remain _____ until we are face to face with God.
6. Adapt and _____ to live in peace with the way things really are.
7. Become more _____.

Action Step: _____, “Jesus, teach me whatever it is you want me learn in this situation.”