Day 9 Good News

**Main Points and Discussion**

**This chapter focusses on good news that can be applied to any situation we face. Discuss how each truth (good news) brings faith to our hearts and changes our lives.**

1. **God Sees You and Hears You**

*“We can rest assured that even when others cannot see or understand what it is we are experiencing, God sees us and our pain and has great compassion for us.”*

**Discuss:** Sometimes our situations are partially a result our own doing. Even when this is true, God does not abandon us. He comforts, provides, and directs. Have you ever believed differently? How does understanding this truth give us faith?

1. **God Knows the Truth**

*“It’s such a joy to just sit down with Him and know that He knows. We can be completely open before Him because we don’t need to hide or pretend.”*

**Discuss:** Why does this good news that we don’t need to try and justify ourselves before God or anyone else because God knows what the real truth is, bring us rest (set us free)?

1. **God Cares for You**

**Discuss:** Why is it that we can confidently give God the things that overwhelmingly concern us?

1. **God is for You Not Against You**

“*Hear this! God is not against you. He is for you. He is not sending evil to teach you. Yes, He really is on your side. He wants you to be successful. He wants your relationships to be enjoyable. He is right this very minute working all things together for your good, not for your downfall—no matter how you feel, no matter what it looks like, God is for you.”*

**Discuss:** Have you always believed this? If not, what errors were your previously taught that negated this truth that God is for you and NOT against you? Do you still catch yourself thinking that hardships are from God to “teach” you something? Why might it be that we should constantly remind ourselves of this truth?

1. **Nothing is Impossible for God or for You**

**Discuss:** How powerful might this truth be—that nothing is impossible to those who believe in Him? What might happen if we received these glad tidings of good thing? How might things change for us?

1. **God is Willing**

The author shares a story that perfectly illustrates this good news. How does it change everything to know that God is willing—to settle forever the doubt that he might NOT be willing? What false beliefs were keeping Cathy’s cousin from the faith that she needed to see her son healed? Can you detect from her story what changed in her mind that allowed her to receive this amazing miracle?

1. **God Wants Us to Ask**

*“We all want to please God, but seldom give thought to the truth that God wants to please us. He wants to answer our prayers.”*

**Discuss:** Do you remember ever thinking that praying for your own needs was selfishness? How difficult is it to forsake the lie that God despises our prayers for our needs and embrace the truth that He WANTS us to ask? More importantly, how can this glorious glad tiding of good things change the way we pray and relate to God as our Father?

1. **God is Right Here Right Now**

*“We don’t need to enter His presence because His presence has once and for all time entered us.”*

**Discuss:** How does knowing that we are one spirit with the Lord change **EVERYTHING**? More specifically, how can this grace bring faith and comfort to our hearts when storms rage and we feel overwhelmed?

1. **He Will Never Leave You or Forsake You**

*“When we face hard times, we need to know that everything between God and us is right, but sometimes our overwhelming circumstances are so intense that we might feel as if we are forsaken by God.”*

**Discuss:** How do the verses given in this section provide us with good news and thus strenthen our faith?

1. **Nothing Can Separate You from His Love**

*“If He loved us enough to die for us when we were His enemies, shall He not now love us all the more now that we are His children? Shall God only have compassion on the lost, but then turn His back on us? This is completely illogical.”*

**Discuss:** How important is it for us to know that NOTHING can separate us from His love? How does knowing and believing this truth produce faith in our hearts and change how we believe and behave?

**Discuss**

In the next chapter, the author encourages the reader to discover other good news specific to his/her situation, but how can the core truths listed above help us with ANYTHING we face? In what ways does understanding that God loves us change EVERYTHING?