

Revitalize: Your Thanksgiving Song

We all get what are called ear worms. That's a song that's stuck in your head. They can be really annoying if you don't like the song or you can't remember the words or the name of the song. At least google can help with figuring some of that out. But sometimes the song makes you smile, it's a blessing, it comes from the overflow of your heart.

Good news this week for a dear friend getting his heart transplant put Chris Tomlin's song, "Forever" in my head. If you don't recognize the title, you will recognize the first two lines. "Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good. His love endures forever".

Now, understand that my mind works like a chain reference. I know that those two lines from that song come from the first verse of a Psalm, so I went to look it up. Boy was I surprised. That phrase first appears in 1Chronicles 16:34. I found that it appears completely ten times in the Old Testament, four times specifically in the Psalms. It was originally a **song** in the Old Testament! Thank you Chris Tomlin for updating it for us! As you can see it was a song of thanks, sung over and over. I think it was a favorite worship song in church. So maybe it was even an ear worm in King David's time!

So my chain reference brain took me to some other questions, like how many times is the word thanks used in the NIV Bible? On biblegateway.com it says it is in 100 verses. For the word thanksgiving I got three different answers from three different sources; 25, 30 & 32. (Since I left it for other people to count, I am just taking that as it is.) To me it's clear that being thankful is not something to be stingy about. Most years there are many of my friends doing the daily thankfulness list on facebook. Not this year. I don't know why this year is any different, unless the challenge is just a fad that people got tired of.

I never participated in the challenge. I tend to be thankful all the time, not just for the month of November. I'm not saying that having a month where you focus on thanks isn't an awesome thing, because it is. In the prayer group I lead, after we study and acknowledge an attribute of God, we go right to praise and thanks. I love thanking God, not just for the big things like my friend's new heart, but also for the little things.

I'm thankful for green lights when I'm running a little late. I'm thankful for the scent of lemon. I'm thankful for getting a great parking place. I'm thankful for my dog in my lap. I'm thankful for my friends that get me. I'm thankful for old songs I can sing along to and the memories they bring back. My list goes on and on. I hope this November and actually all the time, you tell God thank you for all the things that make you smile.

"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good. His love endures forever." 1 Chronicles 16:34 and 16:41, 2 Chronicles 7:6, and 20:21, Ezra 3:11, Psalm 106:1, 107:1, 118:1, 118:29, Jeremiah 33:11.

Nancy