

Thanksgiving in Difficult Times

Colossians 2:6-10

Main idea: To encourage believers to remain thankful and rooted in Christ during challenging seasons, using valleys and mountains as metaphors for life's highs and lows.

Topic: Valley and Mountains

Suggestions for moving forward with your sermon on thanksgiving in difficult times:

1. Build on the concept of valleys and mountains:

- Explore the idea of how valleys and mountains represent the highs and lows of life, emphasizing that both are essential for growth and spiritual development.
- Use Psalm 23:4 to highlight the comfort and guidance God provides in the midst of challenging times.
- Incorporate Isaiah 40:4-5 to emphasize the leveling of valleys and the lifting up of mountains as a metaphor for God's transformative work in our lives.

2. Expand on the Scripture passage:

- Elaborate on Colossians 2:6-10 by emphasizing the importance of remaining rooted in Christ during difficult times.
- Connect this passage with Romans 8:28, highlighting how God works all things together for good for those who love Him.
- Consider incorporating James 1:2-4, emphasizing the role of trials in producing perseverance and maturity in our faith.

3. Highlight other relevant Scripture verses:

- Psalm 34:17-18 speaks of God's nearness to the brokenhearted and His deliverance from afflictions.
- 2 Corinthians 4:8-9 emphasizes how God's power is made perfect in our weakness, providing hope in difficult times.
- Philippians 4:6-7 encourages us to bring our anxieties to God in prayer, experiencing His peace that surpasses all understanding.

4. Utilize original language insights:

- In Colossians 2:7, the word "rooted" (rizoo) carries the connotation of being firmly established and grounded. Emphasize the importance of deepening our roots in Christ during challenging seasons.
- The word "thanksgiving" (eucharistia) in Colossians 2:7 can be explored further, highlighting the transformative power of gratitude in difficult times.
- Look for other instances where these words are used in the Bible, such as Ephesians 3:17 and Colossians 1:23, to reinforce the sermon's message of remaining rooted and steadfast in Christ.

Remember to weave these additional ideas and Scripture passages seamlessly into your existing sermon, reinforcing the theme of thanksgiving in difficult times and providing a well-rounded perspective on the topic.