

Developing a godly heart

“And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him.” Romans 12:1

1. Because of Jesus, I can grow in patience in the midst of problems

“Be patient in trouble” Romans 12:12a

Why?

“...because of all he has done for you.” Romans 12 v 1a

“Oh, how great are God’s riches and wisdom and knowledge! How impossible it is for us to understand his decisions and his ways! ³⁴ For who can know the Lord’s thoughts? Who knows enough to give him advice? ³⁵ And who has given him so much that he needs to pay it back?” Romans 11:33-35

How?

“Be patient in trouble, and keep on praying.” Rom 12:12

2. Because of Jesus, I give honour to the giver not the gifts

*“For everything comes from him and exists by his power and is intended for his glory. All glory to him forever! Amen.”
Romans 11:36*

“Whatever is good and perfect comes down to us from God our Father” James 1:17

How? Give appreciation to God the Father

Give your gifts for him to use

“God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well.” Rom 12:6

Give your finance for him to invest

“Honour the Lord with your wealth and the best part of everything you produce.” Proverbs 3:9

3. Because of Jesus, I can learn to be content in all circumstances

“Oh, how great are God’s riches and wisdom and knowledge!” Romans 11:33a

“Yet true godliness with contentment is itself great wealth. ⁷ After all, we brought nothing with us when we came into the world, and we can’t take anything with us when we leave it. ⁸ So if we have enough food and clothing, let us be content.” 1 Tim 6:6-8

Joseph’s experience: Genesis 37:23-28; 39-41

Paul’s experience: 2 Corinthians 6:3-10

How? Be thankful for what you do have

Take delight in the giver

Remember what Christ has done for you

Result: I become an energiser of others

“Really love them...genuine affection...take delight in...enthusiastically. Rejoice...keep on praying...be eager...Bless those who persecute you...enjoy the company of ordinary people.” Rom 12:9-16