

you can't go forward, you can't go back ...

God seems absent, angry or apathetic ...

so ... what do you do IN THE MEANTIME?

DESERT SONG



I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want.

philippians 4 verses 12-13

...I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT FROM THIS CURRENT SERIES:

WEEK - 4: WHAT WE FOCUS ON GETS BIGGER

What do you do when life hasn't gone in the direction you hoped or wanted it to go and there's nothing you can do to change your circumstances? What do you do when you're living "*in the meantime*"? Have you ever wondered if God is punishing you in the present for something you did in the distant past? What we focus on tends to get bigger - so where is your focus?

THINK ABOUT THESE ...

1. Do you tend to be patient or impatient?
How does that tendency affect your relationships and the way you deal with your circumstances?
2. Why is it so tempting for people in the midst of difficult circumstances to compare their lives to others lives? What are some of the downsides of making those comparisons?
3. **Read John 9:1-3.** Have you ever treated a person like a problem to be solved? Explain.
4. Think about a time when you've asked, "*Why is this happening to me?*" What did you do to manage the circumstances that caused you to ask that question? What was the result?
5. During the message we said "When you focus on what's wrong, you lose sight of what God makes right."
Based on your own experiences, does it seem true?
Why or why not?
6. As you consider your current circumstances, what is one thing you can do to begin to focus less on what is going wrong and more on what God is making right?
What suggestion can you make to Nashville Road to help support you and others?

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THINKING REVOLUTIONARY ...

When we focus on what's wrong, we lose sight of what God makes right. There's something important we have to keep in mind: our idea of making something right may not be God's idea of making something right. When you realize and accept this truth, it changes everything.

READ AND THINK ABOUT THESE WORDS (MEMORIZE THEM IF YOU CAN!):

As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth.

His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

"Neither this man nor his parents sinned," said Jesus, "but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him."

John 9 verses 1-3