

EMBRACING *THE* BEAUTY OF GOD

GRAHAM COOKE

EPIISODE 2:

The Joy of Simplicity

Welcome to the Joy of Simplicity!

For each word in this series, we have developed a Devotional Catalyst to share some of the creative ways that we've experienced God over the years. These are descriptions for exploration, not prescriptive steps to be specifically followed.

We expect that our Brilliant BTV Community will take these catalysts and expand them or create something even more radiant. We're looking forward to those discoveries!

For this word, we wanted to share some of the ways we travel simply and lightly with the Lord.

"For me (Graham), my rhythm of life is to live in day-tight compartments.

Before I go to sleep, I think about my day. I spend time in thanksgiving and rejoicing for all the ways I've encountered the Lord, and His gifts of provision I've experienced.

If there's been anything negative, I put it away. Jesus paid the price for all of our negatives. They belong to Him, so I make sure to give them back if there are any still around. I don't want to be accumulating negativity from one day to the next!

Actually, I don't carry anything into the next day, good or bad, except my relationship with God.

I am fully confident that in the morning, there are NEW mercies waiting for me. I don't have to save any of today's grace for tomorrow. I anticipate that God will fill each day for me completely."

- *Graham*

"For me (Allison), my day begins with how I've created my sleeping space. Every piece in my room is intentional and has meaning that brings me joy.

When I wake up, I don't get up. I slowly look around my room and find my starting place. It's a time of thanksgiving and anticipation, of joy or comfort... whatever He knows I'll need most.

There are so many occasions where something we've considered together that morning, will be exactly what I need later that day.

When I have time, He often takes His time. On days that start early, He doesn't take long. But I always allow for that space before my feet hit the floor.

It's not a discipline. It's a delight. Then, it's on to coffee and quiet time or whatever the day holds. But it allows me to start my day refreshed.

- *Allison*

God is training you to live renewed in simplicity.

What simple ways will He create those experiences with you?

You can use any of these ideas, adapt them or develop your own. We would love to hear what you discover.

Thanks for allowing us to join you on your journey in Jesus,

- *Graham and Allison*

