

First Baptist Church – Odessa

Pastor Byron McWilliams

Date: _____

“Reasons for Thankfulness in 2020”

Thanksgiving 2020

2 Corinthians 4:16-18 & Selected

I Am Thankful Because...

I. The challenges of this year have not _____ me!

“So we do not lose heart.” Vs. 16a

Despite the Strangest of Times...

- The _____ of life have not crushed me!

“We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed.” Vs. 8a

- The _____ have not disheartened me!

“...perplexed, but not driven to despair.” Vs. 8b

- The _____ encountered have not isolated me!

“...persecuted, but not forsaken.” Vs. 9a

- The _____ I’ve received have not destroyed me!

“...struck down, but not destroyed.” Vs. 9b

II. The challenges of this year have _____ me!

“Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day.” Vs. 16b

"I bear on my body the marks of Jesus." Galatians 6:17b

"For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong." 2 Corinthians 12:10

"But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us." 2 Corinthians 4:7

III. The challenges of this year are not worth comparing with the _____ God has in store for me!

"For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison." Vs. 17

"For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us." Romans 8:18

Thank You, Lord...

- **That my _____ have been refocused.**

"...as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen." Vs. 18a

- **That my _____ has been refined.**

"For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal." Vs. 18b

- **That my _____ has been tested.**

"But we are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed, but of those who have faith and preserve their souls."

Hebrews 10:39

- **That my _____ has been improved.**

"I can do all things through Him who strengthens me."

Philippians 4:13