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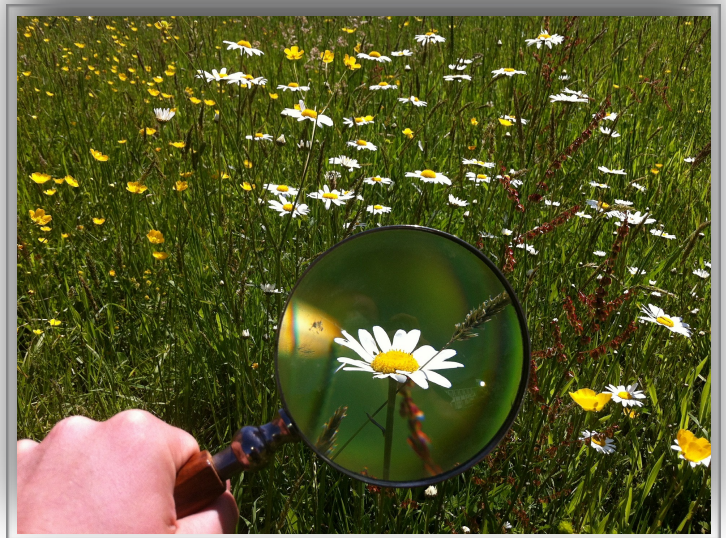


And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord..." Luke 1:46 (English Standard Version)

Thought for today...

When we view objects through a magnifying glass they appear larger, closer, sharper in focus, and small things loom large. I don't know about you, but at times I am prone to view difficult situations and seasons as if through the lens of a magnifying glass.

King David was not seeking to make his God ***appear*** larger than He is when he said "Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt His name together." Psalm 34:3 (New King James Version). Rather, he was encouraging us to exalt the name of the Lord - to bring Him closer and into sharper focus - by way of praise, worship and thanksgiving.



Paul and Silas though thrown into jail, chose to magnify the Lord rather than their situation, by praying and singing praises:- **About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them.** Acts 16:25 (NIV).

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego though thrown into a fiery furnace, chose to magnify the Lord rather than their life threatening situation, by declaring His might, power and ability to deliver them:-

“...O Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you. If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God whom we serve is able to save us. He will rescue us from your power, your majesty. But even if He doesn't, we want to make it clear to you, your majesty, that we will never serve your gods or worship the gold statue you have set up.” Daniel 3:16-18 (New Living Translation).

We can choose to declare as King David did when he was in trouble and in need of urgent help from the Lord:- **“I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify Him with thanksgiving.”** Psalm 69:30 (New King James Version).

So, for the situation that you find yourself facing right now, put up a magnifying glass - not to view your situation through, but rather to magnify the Lord - to make Him bigger than your problem, to bring Him closer and into sharper focus.



“Let all those who seek You rejoice and be glad in You; let such as love Your salvation say continually, 'The LORD be magnified'!”
Psalm 40:16 (New King James Version).