

Suffering Is Never for Nothing

by Elisabeth Elliot

Chapter 4: Gratitude

Discussion Questions

1. Have you ever received a gift that it was hard to be thankful for? Share about it.
2. Describe the most thankful person you know. What have you learned from their example?
3. What is your gameplan to deal with suffering? Is there anything you'd change about or add to Elisabeth Elliot's list on pp. 65–66?
4. When have you had to make a "sacrifice" by giving thanks in a hard situation (p. 64–65)? How did God show you His salvation through it?
5. Discuss the idea of "making a career out of my troubles" (p. 68). What do you think Elisabeth meant by this? How do you see yourself or others doing this, and how can we, by God's grace, keep ourselves from this trap?
6. On p. 70, Elisabeth touched on the connection between gratitude and forgiveness. Discuss: how do you see God's forgiveness of us and our forgiveness of others affecting our ability to be grateful?
7. Do you think our burdens of suffering can be seen as gifts (p. 72)? Why or why not?