



Shiloh Messenger

ENDURING FAITH

June 2024

“Knowing that the testing of your faith produces Endurance.” James 1:3

Perseverance or endurance is one of the essential qualities of a Disciple of Christ.

Hebrews 10:36 reads, “For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise.” A Faith that is enduring trusts God regardless of the situations, and circumstances. This kind of a faith is nurtured over time, day in and day out, through our relationship with God.

Faith brings answers to prayers, but Enduring Faith that perseveres builds our character. You have most likely heard it said, “God is more interested in our character than our comfort.” If an answer to prayer is delayed, perhaps it is for our well being of maturation so that we become more mature to steward the very answer to the prayer we have been praying.

1. Enduring Faith comes through Prayer. Jesus tells us, “Men ought to always pray and not lose heart.” So how do we maintain in the waiting process and not lose heart?

We must learn and continue to learn to trust His Character, as He sanctifies our character. “The whole meaning of prayer is that we may know God.”

2. Enduring Faith comes through Praise. Some battles are won only by Praise. Will we Praise The Lord in the midst of adversity and challenge? Praise should grow in pressure. May we never ever surrender our Praise. When we lift our voices and exalt Jesus, our spirit man is strengthened.

3. Enduring Faith comes by hearing God’s Word. (Romans 10:17). Faith is established on God’s Word and Faith is fortified on God’s Word. A faith that becomes weak is a faith that has been negligent in His Word and fellowship with Him.

4. Enduring Faith works by Love. (Galatians 5:6) The deeper the intimacy, the stronger the faith. The greater The Love we develop for Him, the more we desire to please Him at all cost.

5. Enduring Faith comes through tests and trials. Romans 5:3-4 States, “We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance. And endurance develops strength of character, & character strengthens our confident hope of salvation.”

“These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold.” (1 Peter 1:7.) We all can testify, these times are tough! Warren Wiersbe stated, “A Faith that can not be tested, cannot be trusted.”

We would like to say, it will get easier, but this is just not true on this side of eternity. And all along, Our Father in Heaven is developing us into Disciples that indeed steward an enduring, sustainable faith. George Mueller, said this, “To learn strong faith is to endure great trials. I have learned my faith by standing firm amid severe testings.”

It is a must to stay in dialogue with Him through prayer & the feasting on His Word, so that we can endure in our faith. It is utmost that we make it our life long ambition to get to know Him better. For us to endure hardships we must know Him intimately & therefore trust is fortified. The Spirit of God is jealous for us; He doesn't want superficial fellowship, but genuine intimacy.

“All of us have lost battles, And All of us bear scars. Failure does not surprise us or discourage us. We simply fall forward, dust ourselves off, and rise to battle on, for we know how this ends. God Wins.” Dick Brogden.

Onward Christian Soldiers marching as to war, with the Cross of Jesus going on before! Christ, the royal Master, leads against the foe; forward into battle, see His banner go!

The old cherished and well known hymn, “Onward Christian Soldiers” was written in 1871. It was taken from a reference from God’s Word out of the New Testament. “Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.” 2 Timothy 2:3.

“When He has tried me, I will come forth as refined gold, pure and luminous.” Job 23:10. God uses our trials to refine and purify our faith making it stronger and more resilient.

This month we were privileged to host an amazing group of Spirit-filled ministers from Jacksonville, Florida. Once a year, Mark Baxter, a lifelong missionary with Youth With A Mission, and brother in Christ, returns to Shiloh with his team for a week of teaching and one-on-one discipleship with our students. This year was no exception! Each day, Mark taught on our mandate to export the Gospel to the ends of the earth. He shared from his own trials and triumphs what he's learned serving as a missionary in over 150 nations. The students were challenged to lay their own dreams aside, empty their hearts and hands of their own ambitions, and allow Jesus to fill them with His purposes and power. In the afternoons each student met with a pair of the ministry team for a time of counseling, self-examination and prayer. Students experienced freedom for the first time in areas of their lives where deception and bondage had held them captive. Some were delivered from oppression and many were encouraged through the prayer time with Prophetic Words of Wisdom regarding their families, relationships with the Lord, and specific callings. The week ended with Mark sharing Sunday Morning at Shiloh Church with our students and community about the power and significance of a God-given Vision. As Christians zealous to glorify Christ, we can easily be weighed down and distracted with so many things that are in and of themselves virtuous and honorable in the sight of God. Serving your church and community, raising Godly children, or full-time ministry are all exceptional endeavors. Yet, without vision and specific direction from the Father, it's common to become overwhelmed and anxious. Priorities get muddled and soon it's clear that sometimes we've bitten off more than we can chew. Vision from God lifts the burden of doing things in our own strength and empowers us to let God lead our ministries, families and callings. Mark encouraged us all to pray for such vision in our lives and gave us a template by which to measure it.. The template is in the form of an acronym. VIABLE. Is the vision achievable and workable in a practical sense? INSPIRING. Does it inspire others to look to Jesus? SPECIFIC. A vision is clear and easily understood. INCREMENTAL. A vision can be executed on a realistic time table. OTHERS FOCUSED. Does the vision serve you or others? NEVER GIVE UP. If it's from the Lord, nothing can stop you! V.I.S.I.O.N. Please pray for Mark and his team (Cathy, Bill, Tasha, Lisa and Kirk) as they continue to serve the Body of Christ as God leads. We look forward to next year!



Shiloh Ministries is one of The Lord's many Ministry tools to reconcile men for restoration. We are blessed to be used of Him to preach the un-searchable riches that are in Christ Jesus (Eph. 3:8). Everyday we are hearing such wonderful testimonies of our Graduates pursuing their calling of a Godly husband, father, missionary, Staff person at local Churches and a minister of reconciliation in the work place. We are asking that you prayerfully consider financially supporting Shiloh Ministries every month. The Lord's ministry at Shiloh has always been financially free for the man who desires freedom from his addictions. Because of this, we simply trust The Holy Spirit to lead people to give financially. This ministry is grateful to those who express gratitude to God by co-laboring with us in discipleship. The expenditures are huge managing a campus that houses over 30 students, staff & interns. Please prayerfully consider Shiloh Ministries every month as good ground for your financial seed. We invite you to visit our web-site and read our Testimony section. It bares witness of our graduates fruit that is on display, for The Glory of God. Thanks for your giving to The Lord's Ministry at Shiloh!



*LORD of the Harvest (Wheat & Weed's),
Matt. 9:38*

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