



World Conquerors Church
Where You Discover Who You Were Born To Be!
www.worldconquerorschurch.org
2021: THE YEAR TO RE-IMAGINE

Enduring When it Gets Tough

Presented by Pastor Daren L. Barron

Sermon Notes from December 12, 2021

Faith is an endurance activity

James 2:14 New Living Translation

What good is it, dear brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but don't show it by your actions? Can that kind of faith save anyone?

- **Have you tried reading, hearing, speaking, remembering, living and giving the Word with a hurting, angry, discouraged heart? Have you tried praying when you've lost something precious you'll never get back? Worshipped when you've heard the worst news of your life?**
- **Faith can be hard but not impossible. Like a muscle, it also grows when it is stretched beyond comfort. Your relationship, your results will be according to your feelings or according to your faith!**

Pray for the discouragement in your heart.

- **The darkness might not disappear within a day or two of pressing on. Tears might still fill your eyes. Speaking the Word might still be difficult. There will be so many negative thoughts, fears and doubt whispering inside you. God may not be your first and final go to...this is what you must work on, this is an opportunity, not an end to the purpose of your life.**
- **This is where, like a lucid dream you're desperately trying to wake up from; you need to turn to God in prayer with everything you've got. It doesn't have to be positive or eloquent, just be honest. Tell Him you know He sees**

your pain. Ask for help even if your brain is insisting He won't do anything. You might not know it yet, but this is your lifeline.

Get your daily nourishment; it will strengthen you.

- **Matthew 6:11 AMP 'Give us this day our daily bread**
- **Matthew 6:11 The Passion Translation - We acknowledge you as our Provider of all we need each day.**
- **Holding onto faith in prolonged seasons of disappointment, grief, hopelessness can be too heavy to carry when you have nothing of truth left in your soul. Your heart might be screaming to tap out forever, but against all natural inclinations, Truth is what will nurse it back to health and renewed strength. We have to nourish the weakened soul with the best spiritual food you can find.**
- **So whether it's through reading or listening to Scripture or sermons or songs — you gotta eat something good to get better.**

Enduring will promote needed change

Romans 5:3-4 The Passion Translation

3 But that's not all! Even in times of trouble we have a joyful confidence, knowing that our pressures will develop in us patient endurance. 4 And patient endurance will refine our character, and proven character leads us back to hope.

- **Sometimes we get so fixed on the end result (like your goal weight on your weight loss journey) that we forget about the reason for the process. When you face difficult things in your life, you always have a choice. Sure, you have the option of giving up. Or you can choose to grow.**
- **When you choose to keep going through the tough stuff, your character changes. You become stronger, more steadfast, more confident, and, ultimately, full of hope. Endurance doesn't just change the end result you are working toward, it changes who you are in the best kind of ways.**

Even though it may seem like it, you are not alone.

- **One of the lies we often believe when we feel stuck is that we are alone in this. Nobody else understands how hard this is. Nobody else has been in this situation. Nobody else feels my pain. No one gets it. God promises that He will never leave you or forsake you. Just because you are going through a tough time doesn't mean He has abandoned you.**

Deuteronomy 31:8 New International Version

The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.”

➤ **God is with you, always!**

Remember times in the past when the Lord delivered or rescued you.

2 Timothy 3:11 New Living Translation

You know how much persecution and suffering I have endured. You know all about how I was persecuted in Antioch, Iconium, and Lystra—but the Lord rescued me from all of it.

Choose Joy and Peace. They are the elements used in faith to help you Endure.

Philippians 4:4-8 Amplified Bible

4 **Rejoice in the Lord always** [delight, take pleasure in Him]; again I will say, rejoice! 5 Let your gentle spirit [your graciousness, unselfishness, mercy, tolerance, and patience] be known to all people. The Lord is near. 6 Do not be anxious or worried about anything, but in everything [every circumstance and situation] by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, continue to make your [specific] requests known to God. 7 And **the peace of God [that peace which reassures the heart, that peace] which transcends all understanding, [that peace which] stands guard over your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus [is yours].**

God’s Presence within us makes us durable!

Galatians 5:22-24 Amplified Bible

22 But the **fruit of the Spirit [the result of His presence within us]** is love [unselfish concern for others], joy, [inner] peace, **patience [not the ability to wait, but how we act while waiting]**, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control. Against such things there is no law. 24 And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature together with its passions and appetites.

Holy Spirit...The ultimate answer

John 14:26-27 Amplified Bible

26 But **the Helper (Comforter, Advocate, Intercessor—Counselor, Strengtheners, Standby), the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name [in My place, to represent Me and act on My behalf], He will teach you all things. And He will help you remember everything that I have told you.** 27 **Peace I leave with you; My [perfect] peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be afraid. [Let My perfect peace calm you in every circumstance and give you courage and strength for every challenge.]**