

Tried & Tested

Rachael Martin 6.30.2015

Quote by Pastor Pitts Evans: “There is grace for each of you but we need to realize that we grow in the trials and the testings, it’s just the truth. The only way we can screw this life up is to dis-engage from the Lord.... Jesus saw tremendous potential in each of His disciples and He sees tremendous potential in you and me.

When I shared with Gary what was on my heart – I didn’t know how to convey it properly and the Lord just spilled out of him – this is what he said:

“Everything that is in us – goes against the bible – it’s only by the Spirit of God that we no longer think about ourselves, that we give our will and our right to God, that we overcome evil with good. From birth, it’s all about us, we tend to have a “me” attitude. In order for us to get out of ourselves, it takes the Holy Spirit (because our judgment & thought process is flawed) to work in and through us so that we can think of others ahead of ourselves and it’s by the Word of God that we are able to achieve victory. This is a big part of the blueprint of heaven here on earth.”

Obviously being a Christian in this day and age is becoming more and more terrible in the world’s eyes. The word Christian leaves a bad taste in a lot of people’s mouths – even the word church – a lot of Christians are “tired of church” – but what is the reality of it all? What is the underlying issue or issues at hand? Do you think that if we could come out of the “law” long enough to remember that it most likely wasn’t the law that brought us to Christ in the first place but it was His undeniable love that drew us to Him – then are we, are you and I loving our neighbors, friends, and family enough that they see nothing but Christ?

May I be so bold as to say that if you and I choose to go the extra mile and come out of ourselves long enough to love others even MORE than we do now, than the Holy Spirit begins to work where we wouldn’t be able to normally and it becomes supernatural and this is where God works – in this realm of us being tested to go beyond our natural thought and instinct and react to what we know the Bible says – it produces a faith realm where bigger and greater

can and will happen according to our faith and in this – people around us will be drawn to Jesus Christ, not because we brought the letter of the law, but because we cared, because we took the time to listen, because we showed sympathy or empathy, because we chose to do something out of our normal routine for someone else, and because we were prompted by the Word of God, that is living and active and dwelling on the inside of us every time we read it – to go beyond ourselves and because of our trials and testings, we were able to reach others in need as well. (because we “been there and done that” so we know how it feels)

When I read the following scriptures, I found myself reading and reading – soaking it up – it is rather long but it is the Word of God none-the-less and so I’ll end by saying – know this friends and loved ones, what you are going through, as it is shaped and molded by God can and will be used by Holy Spirit, if you allow it, to touch you to your heart, to mend your broken areas, to pull you up and brush you off, and start (or start again, 2nd chances are God’s specialty) to beautifully affect the world we live in. Don’t give up!!

1 Peter 1:2b–25a – Grace to you and peace be multiplied. ³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, ⁵ who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

⁶ In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷ that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, ⁸ whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, ⁹ receiving the end of your faith—the salvation of your souls.

¹⁰ Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of the grace that would come to you, ¹¹ searching what, or what manner of time, the Spirit of Christ who was in them was indicating when He testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow. ¹² To them it was revealed that, not to themselves, but to us they were ministering the things which now have been reported to you through those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven—things which angels desire to look into.

¹³ Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; ¹⁴ as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, as in your ignorance; ¹⁵ but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, ¹⁶ because it is written, “Be holy, for I am holy.”

¹⁷ And if you call on the Father, who without partiality judges according to each one’s work, conduct yourselves throughout the time of your stay here in fear; ¹⁸ knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. ²⁰ He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you ²¹ who through Him believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

²² Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart, ²³ having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever, ²⁴ because “All flesh is as grass, And all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, And its flower falls away, ²⁵ But the word of the LORD endures forever!

© www.gatheringathisfeet.org

THANKS FOR STOPPING BY!

EMAIL, gahf@gatheringathisfeet.org