

embrace the STORM



HOW DO I GLORIFY GOD IN MY DAILY TRIALS and LARGE SUFFERING?

BEFORE:

- Am I really pursuing my total _____ of God (really? How?)
- Am I really pursuing an awe and a _____ of God (how?)
- Do I have a trust for God and his _____
- Do I have a solid theology of _____
- Do I have a solid theology of _____
- Learn to guard your _____ with ALL diligence in the “easy times”... it will be so much harder in suffering
- Fight the “small” daily _____ battles (as God expects). Suffering will only amplify the sin you regularly overlook or justify. However, fighting every battle every day will set you up for handling harder sins biblically.
- Have tools / _____ prepared before the battle (fighter verses)
- Know a BIBLICAL person you can _____ to give you truth
- Learn how to _____ unbiblical counsel and resources

DURING:

- Remember to _____ - James 1:5 / Philippians 4:6–7

“A lesser wisdom than the Divine would feel impelled to forbid, to circumvent or to resist the outworking of these hellish plans. It is a fact that often God’s people try to do this themselves, or cry unceasingly to the Lord that He may do it. So it is that prayers often seem to lie unanswered.”

Jerry Bridges, *Trusting God*, p. 120

- GUARD YOUR _____ – fight every sinful thought

Proverbs 4:23

Recognize that you ARE thinking almost ALL the time and that thinking will go in selfish and fleshly directions VERY quickly

- Fear
- Worry
- Self-pity
- Discouragement
- Anger
- Bitterness

- _____ and See God's hand - *Genesis 45:8 / Genesis 50:20*
- _____ (acknowledging His worthiness) - *Job 1:20*
- INVOLVE the _____ ... DON'T ISOLATE - *1 Corinthians 12: 12,21-25,26*
- Be _____ - *1 Thessalonians 5:18*
- Be _____ (true Christlikeness) - *2 Corinthians 12:7*
- Be _____ (Joseph) - *Ephesians 4:32*
 - You are never more like Christ than when you _____
 - You will never have occasion to forgive _____ of another that Christ has forgiven you !!!
- Stay in _____ Don't go ahead of God
Matthew 6:34
- **Refuse to _____ in my reactions**
 - Remember _____ and his Sovereignty and Providence in all circumstances
 - Remember its about God's _____ and not your happiness
 - Remember to be _____ and Be in war mode Immediately
 - BE VERY ALERT to _____ counsel and resources
 - KNOW IT IS A _____ THING (*james 1, Rom 5*)
 - "Rinse and repeat" ... even if you have to fight the same battle 30 seconds later

PRINCIPLES OF TRIALS / SUFFERING:

1. Don't be surprised, suffering will come
1 Pet. 4:12 / Ps. 34:19 / Jas. 1:1
2. My difficulties will NEVER be too big to do what is right and bring God glory
2 Corinthians 4:8-10 / 1 Corinthians 10:13
3. Living for God and standing for truth will bring suffering
2 Tim 3:12 / Matt 10:22 / 2 Timothy 1:8

4. Suffering comes directly from the hand of God (Book of Job)
Job 1:8-12 / Job 2:3-6 / Gen. 50:20 / Luke 22:22
5. No person's evil intent toward you is outside of God's purpose and plan
Gen. 50:20 / Acts 2:23 / Acts 4:27-28
6. Remember that God knows and Cares
1 Peter 5:7 / Philippians 4:6-7 / Isaiah 43:1-3 / Psalm 55:22
7. Everything in your life comes from PERFECT wisdom
Romans 11:33 / Isaiah 40:28 / Isaiah 55:8
8. TRUST God's wisdom even though you don't understand
Isaiah 29:16 / Jeremiah 18:6 / Romans 9:20-22
9. KNOW and TRUST that God has perfect PURPOSE in all you are going through
Isaiah 46:10 / 2 Timothy 1:9 / Romans 11:36 / Jam 1:1 / Rom 5:1 / Jeremiah 29:11
10. KNOW that He is doing a specific work in you to be like Christ
Jam 1:1 / Rom 5:1 / Romans 8:28 / Philippians 1:6

FINAL THOUGHTS

- we cannot compare trials – God is the orchestrator and He is ALL wise
- we cannot decide whether or not we will have trials
- we cannot decide what our trials are
- we cannot decide when we will have trials
- we cannot decide how long trials will last
- we cannot decide how many trials we will face at once
- we cannot be certain we will understand the reason for our trials

WE CAN decide how we will respond to trials

Infinite wisdom has arranged the whole with infinite love,
and infinite power enables me to rest upon that love.

I am in a dear Father's hands;
All is secure.

When I look to Him I see nothing but faithfulness and immutability and truth,
And I have the sweetest peace. I cannot have more peace!

CHARLES SIMEON