

Victorious Living

Pleasing God leads to Victory (Hebrews 11:6) Grove Church

1 Cor. 10:12-13

If you think you are standing firm you had better be careful that you do not fall.

Every test that you have experienced is the kind that normally comes to people. But God keeps his promise, and he will not allow you to be tested beyond your power to remain firm; at the time you are put to the test, he will give you the strength to endure it, and so provide you with a way out.

"Opportunity only knocks once, Temptation leans on the doorbell."

For all of my Christian years I prayed for a spirit of honesty but was never able to get it until I came in full contact with my human frailty. As I interact with my weakness as a Christian and humanity and that outside of Christ there is truly no life and truth, but simply that we all have sinned and come short of the glory of God and that it is simply and purely by his grace that we live – until then, I was not able to be truly open and honest.

Confronting weakness and acknowledging it as well as the practice of restraint, I have found to be the greatest weapon in fighting battles that are not waged in the natural but in fact impact the natural.

Through the process of refining also, it is to be noted that it is not all who call themselves Christians will make it to the finish product, some will falter along the way unfortunately and some will be destroyed. Those who make it to the end however are those who have chosen to endure the hard sufferings and trials associated with obeying the faith.

Some will say that it is impossible to live the faith and so will chose their own path or their own way of expressing the faith, hence the many divisions and heresies.

The Christian faith I will reiterate is not an easy life to live, but it is possible to live it in a way that is pleasing to God and Christ.

The two greatest blunders of those who enter the faith are:

1. Those who claim that it is impossible to live up to the requirements of the faith.
2. Those who fail to acknowledge the human element – that of inherent frailty and weakness.

The greatest way to overcome this I have found out is to:

1. (In response to the first point) – Simply commit to the faith. Where there is a will there is a way. If a person is seriously committed to something or someone, there is absolutely no way that anyone can deter that commitment.

We fail to commit however because we believe that we cannot live up to the commitment. Honestly however, if one is truly committed, several mountains would have been crossed in one giant leap. Contemporary Christians however fail to commit, for one reason or the other.

2. The second way to overcome the second hurdle is simply to adopt an attitude of honesty and reliance on Jesus. One would think that honesty is second nature to Christians, it should be but it's not. Honesty and truth are foundations of the Christian faith and there is no compromise where those two virtues are concerned in the eyes of God. If we simply adopt an attitude of honesty and confession, we'd have confronted our weakness and frailty, thereby taking away the power of the temptation and the frailty or weakness. If we acknowledge that we are humans and that we are subject to failures then we will cease to rely on ourselves and to rely on God instead.

Notes: