

The Challenge of Perseverance

November 1, 2009

Memory Verse

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily hinders our progress. And let us run with endurance the race that God has set before us. (Hebrews 12:1 NLT)

Perseverance is:

following God's will for my life despite counter influences .

Four Godly Opportunities To Persevere

P₃ersevere in _____ my prayers _____.

"Keep on asking, and you will be given what you ask for. Keep on looking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened. For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And the door is opened to everyone who knocks.

You parents—if your children ask for a loaf of bread, do you give them a stone instead? Or if they ask for a fish, do you give them a snake? Of course not! If you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give good gifts to those who ask him. (Matthew 7:7-11 NLT)

Pray at all times and on every occasion in the power of the Holy Spirit. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all Christians everywhere. (Ephesians 6:18 NLT)

P₃ersevere in _____ my spiritual growth _____.

Peter and John replied, "Do you think God wants us to obey you rather than him?" (Acts 4:19 NLT)

Do not waste time arguing over godless ideas and old wives' tales. Spend your time and energy in training yourself for spiritual fitness. (1 Timothy 4:7 NLT)

Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

(James 1:2-4 NLT)

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persevere in _____ my times of failure and loss _____.

We also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. (Romans 5:3-4 NIV)

And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them. (Romans 8:28 NLT)

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persevere in _____ my influencing others for Jesus _____.

*And remember, the Lord is waiting so that people have time to be saved.
(2 Peter 3:15a NLT)*

That is why we never give up. Though our bodies are dying, our spirits are being renewed every day. For our present troubles are quite small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us an immeasurably great glory that will last forever! So we don't look at the troubles we can see right now; rather, we look forward to what we have not yet seen. For the troubles we see will soon be over, but the joys to come will last forever. (2 Corinthians 4:16-18 NLT)

MY NEXT STEP TODAY IS TO...

- Pray 4-A prayer for the FIRST TIME today!
(Admit: I'm a sinner. Accept: Jesus died for my sins. Ask: God forgive me. Allow: God to be Lord.)
- Memorize Hebrews 12:1.
- Persevere in the area of _____.
- Receive information on joining a Growth Group service project.
- Commit to joining a NTC Growth Group. #
- Serve at PFMC by _____.

*For more on the NT Challenge including daily reading schedule and the NT on audio visit:
www.pulaskifmc.com/nt-challenge.html
**If you'd like to receive Pastor Mike's daily email during this NT Challenge then be sure to mark, *Accept the NT Challenge* and give us your email address on your Connection Card.