

Heroes – Joseph – 7 – The Word

Genesis 37:5

5 Now Joseph had a dream, and he told it to his brothers; and they hated him even more. NKJV

There is a Prophetic word – Tests your faith
There is a literal word – Tests your Character

The Principle of Pride

- The root of Pride – Insecurity

The Principle of the Pit

The Principle of Good Stewardship

The Principal of Purity (Holiness)

Heroes – Joseph – 6 – Perseverance (review)

James 1:2-4

- We must learn to allow the “testing of our faith”
- It is the only way for spiritual growth
- Patience – Waiting with contentment

Perseverance teaches us to trust God

Hebrews 13:6

6 "The LORD is my helper;
I will not fear.
What can man do to me?" NKJV

The only way to get perseverance is to wait patiently for a long period of time

Sometimes weeks turn into months, turn into years turn into...

You get the picture

Joseph's first trial lasted 13 years

He had to keep believing God's word in the midst of feeling like God had forgotten him

David waited 13 years to become king

Paul waited 13 years for his first missionary journey

Abraham waited 25 years

Moses waited 40 years

1 Timothy 6:11-14

11 But you, O man of God, flee these things and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness.

12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. 13 I urge you in the sight of God who gives life to all things, and before Christ Jesus who witnessed the good confession before Pontius Pilate, 14 that you keep this commandment without spot, blameless until our Lord Jesus Christ's appearing. NKJV

- Faith, love, perseverance, gentleness
- Obedience and purity
- Jesus didn't give an inch – Vs. 13MSG
- This is the life that walks in blessings

Heroes – Joseph – 7 – The Word

If we are going to persevere we must know the word of God

It is the word that holds the promises of God

These promises are what we hold on to learning to trust God alone!

One thing we need to know is that while we are persevering we will need patience

There is a Prophetic word – Tests your faith

There is a literal word – Tests your Character

John 1:1-5

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. 4 In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. 5 And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. NKJV

- Everything exists by the word
- When God wants to make something He speaks it
- Power is released in the word
- God has already spoken a specific word over your life
- The word of God will enlighten it
- You can not live a life in the light and stay in the dark

Ephesians 1:4-5

4 just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, 5 having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will. NKJV

- God saved us through His Word
- His plan is discovered and fulfilled through His Word

Ephesians 1:18

18 the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints. NKJV

- No one can do what God has called you to do
- You have a responsibility to...
- Find out what it is – what does the word say?
- Carry out what He has planned for you

Psalms 119:105

105 Your word is a lamp to my feet
And a light to my path. NKJV

- Lamp – candle
- Light – Daylight, Beacon

The word of God is testing (building) our character until our word has been fulfilled

Psalms 105:19

19 Until the time that his word came to pass,
The word of the LORD tested him. NKJV

Until the word spoken over Joseph's life came to pass the Word of the Lord tested him

You can not fulfill the call of God on your life without a desire, passion and understanding of the word of God

Pursuit of the Word of God reveals the God of the Word

Psalm 12:6

6 The words of the LORD are pure words,
Like silver tried in a furnace of earth,
purified seven times. NKJV

Psalm 18:30

30 As for God, His way is perfect;
The word of the LORD is proven;
He is a shield to all who trust in Him. NKJV

Psalm 119:11

11 Your word I have hidden in my heart,
That I might not sin against You. NKJV

John 15:4

4 Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. NKJV

- It is impossible to bear fruit without abiding
- Abide – To stay in a given state, relation or expectancy

John 15:7-8

7 If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. 8 By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples. NKJV

How well we reach the destiny God has for us is directly related to how well we know the word of God

As a Christian you might as well face it, sooner or later you're going to have to read the Bible

Joshua 1:8

8 This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe **to do** according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. NKJV

- After you meditate day and night
- You speak it over and over
- You do what it says
- Then....
- You will have good success

Proverbs 4:20-22

20 My son, give attention to my words;
Incline your ear to my sayings.

21 Do not let them depart from your eyes;
Keep them in the midst of your heart;

22 For they are life to those who find them,
And health to all their flesh. NKJV

Mark 4:13-15

13 And He said to them, "Do you not understand this parable? How then will you understand all the parables? 14 The sower sows the word. 15 And these are the ones by the wayside where the word is sown. When they hear, Satan comes immediately and takes away the word that was sown in their hearts. NKJV

- This principle is elementary
- We must get this
- Many never get past this
- They hear the word and go about their way

Mark 4:16-17

16 These likewise are the ones sown on stony ground who, when they hear the word, immediately receive it with gladness; 17 and they have no root in themselves, and so endure only for a time. Afterward, when tribulation or persecution arises for the word's sake, immediately they stumble. NKJV

- Many of us never allow the word to take root
- This takes trials and persecution – perseverance
- Psalm 105:14 – the word of the Lord tested him

Mark 4:18-19 NKJV

18 Now these are the ones sown among thorns; they are the ones who hear the word, 19 and the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things entering in choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.

- Life chokes out the word
- Jesus didn't die for you to have a bigger house
- Selfish living will not receive the kingdom

Mark 4:20

20 But these are the ones sown on good ground, those who hear the word, accept it, and bear fruit: some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some a hundred." NKJV

- 25% that hear the word get a harvest
- 8% - thirtyfold – $100 = 3,000$
- 8% - sixty – $100 = 6,000$
- 8% - a hundred – $100 = 10,000$

Mark 4:21-23

21 Also He said to them, "Is a lamp brought to be put under a basket or under a bed? Is it not to be set on a lampstand?

22 For there is nothing hidden which will not be revealed, nor has anything been kept secret but that it should come to light. 23 If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear." NKJV

- The word can not be kept silent or hidden
- It must be revealed to produce a harvest
- Do I have ears to hear?
- Say – **Mark 11:23-24**
- Confidence – **1 John 5:14** ask according to His will

Mark 4:24-25

24 Then He said to them, "Take heed what you hear. With the same measure you use, it will be measured to you; and to you who hear, more will be given. 25 For whoever has, to him more will be given; but whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him." NKJV

- The more I **hear and obey** the more I receive
- What I do with what I hear makes a difference
- In fact it makes all the difference