

Problems are – 8

Problems are...

Reminders, Obstacles, Blessings, Lessons, Everywhere,  
Messages, Solvable

Life is full of problems

They can cause us to shrink back in fear and bury our talent

When a problem comes our way the way we face it  
determines the outcome

When we face a problem we must direct our thought life

Our thought life will dictate the outcome

– Spiritual Warfare

There are character traits that will help us in managing a  
problem

- If I lose *perspective* I'll believe the wrong things
- If I have the wrong *priorities* I'll do the wrong things
- If I lose the *path* I'll live for the wrong things

We must develop these traits in our lives

- Passion, Patience Peace, Persistence

Passion helps us handle the pressures of life

Patience helps us handle the people in our life

Peace helps us handle the problems in life

**Persistence** helps us handle the pain in life

## Last Week – Peace

### Philippians 4:6-7

6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; 7 and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. NKJV

- Peace is lost when life accumulates; therefore, you must pray about everything
- Peace is lost when your heart grows unthankful
- Prayer and worship should be an all day event
  - Persistent
- Worry and rest can not co exist

## Pray in everything

### No Slide: Philippians 4:6

### 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18

17 pray without ceasing, 18 in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. NKJV

- Don't stop seeking Father
- Don't forget your covenant
- Fulfill your part and you won't worry about God fulfilling His part
- If your worrying about God doing His part, your not doing your part (Faith) (Believe)

## Pray Always

### Luke 21:36

36 Watch therefore, and pray always. NKJV

- Pray always – Make request and REST
- Prayer without rest is not prayer at all

## Pray Everywhere

### 1 Timothy 2:8

8 I desire therefore that the men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting; NKJV

To stay in Peace you must have persistence

Persistence is not something that happens over night but over the long hall

### 2 Corinthians 4:8-10

8 We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; 9 persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed — 10 always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. NKJV

- We get knocked down but get up again – NLT
- Give your problem a purpose
- Don't quit

Tell me where you lost the company of Christ, and I will tell you the most likely place to find Him. Have you lost Christ in the closet by restraining prayer? Then it is there you must seek and find Him. Did you lose Christ by sin? You will find Christ in no other way but by the giving up of the sin, and seeking by the Holy Spirit to mortify the member in which the lust doth dwell. Did you lose Christ by neglecting the Scriptures? You must find Christ in the Scriptures. “Look for the thing where you dropped it – it is there” – Spurgeon

We must stay persistent in the things we speak

## 2 Corinthians 4:13

13 And since we have the same **spirit of faith**, according to what is written, "I believed and therefore I spoke," we also believe and therefore speak. NKJV

- Faith speaks – God's word
- You can speak without believing but you can't believe without speaking
- What are you saying?

What you think about is what you believe what you believe is what you speak – the circle repeats  
The things you hear repeatedly are what you believe

Persistence is not something that happens over night but over the long hall

## Joshua 14:7-8

7 I was forty years old when Moses the servant of the LORD sent me from Kadesh Barnea to spy out the land, and I brought back word to him as it was in my heart.  
8 Nevertheless my brethren who went up with me made the heart of the people melt, but I wholly followed the LORD my God. NKJV

- He new how to stand in the face of adversity
- To be persistent you may have to go against the flow
- Anyone can take the easy or popular way
- Persistence is in the habit of seeing the purpose not the problem

**\*Is the glass half empty or half full?\***

### Mark 11:22-24

22 So Jesus answered and said to them, "Have faith in God.  
23 For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. 24 Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them. NKJV

- Do I believe God is a rewarder?
- What am I saying to my mountain?

### Joshua 14:12

12 Now therefore, give me this mountain of which the LORD spoke in that day; for you heard in that day how the Anakim were there, and that the cities were great and fortified. It may be that the LORD will be with me, and I shall be able to drive them out as the LORD said." NKJV

- Persistence will take the mountain – NKJV
- Persistence tears down the walls in life
- Persistence is grounded in the word of God
- Persistence will drive out the opposition

You had better believe that God has nothing but good things for your life

You should believe that God is granting you favor that makes others take note

If your life is not causing others to take note its time change what you believe

You can change what you believe looking into God's word

## The principles of persistence

### God's Word

#### Joshua 14:6

6 Then the children of Judah came to Joshua in Gilgal. And Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite said to him: "You know the word which the LORD said to Moses the man of God concerning you and me in Kadesh Barnea. NKJV

### God's reward

#### Joshua 14:9

9 So Moses swore on that day, saying, 'Surely the land where your foot has trodden shall be your inheritance and your children's forever, because you have wholly followed the LORD my God.' NKJV

#### Hebrews 11:6

6 But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him. NKJV

### God's ability

#### Joshua 14:11 NKJV

11 As yet I am as strong this day as on the day that Moses sent me; just as my strength was then, so now is my strength for war, both for going out and for coming in.

- You need persistence...
- Yesterday
- Today
- Tomorrow
- Hebrews 13:8 – Jesus Christ is the same...

## God's timing

### Joshua 14:10

10 And now, behold, the LORD has kept me alive, as He said, these forty-five years, ever since the LORD spoke this word to Moses while Israel wandered in the wilderness; and now, here I am this day, eighty-five years old. NKJV

- We need patience and persistence to be satisfied with God's timing

## God's presence

### Joshua 14:12

12 Now therefore, give me this mountain of which the LORD spoke in that day; for you heard in that day how the Anakim were there, and that the cities were great and fortified. **It may be that the LORD will be with me,** and I shall be able to drive them out as the LORD said." NKJV

- God's presence needs to be a constant
- Am I conscious of his presence?

## God's blessing

### Joshua 14:14-15

14 Hebron therefore became the inheritance of Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite to this day, because he wholly followed the LORD God of Israel. 15 And the name of Hebron formerly was Kirjath Arba (Arba was the greatest man among the Anakim). Then the land had rest from war. NKJV

- Persistence will bring inheritance, peace and rest

### Proverbs 10:22

22 The blessing of the LORD makes one rich,  
And He adds no sorrow with it. NKJV