

Word of the Day (Week 1)

“Persevere to the End”

Text: 1 Corinthians 15:58, “Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.”

In lieu of the certainty of the resurrection from the dead, we’re called to be steadfast in the faith, unwavering in our hope, and faithful to the ministry. Now is not the time to waver, now is the time to persevere, despite opposition, hardships, or trials. Those things are temporary, but our destiny is eternal. God wants us to always focus on our future, for only then can we see the big picture.

Some time ago, I ministered to someone who was on the verge of giving up. They felt like, “What’s the use in persevering, no one cares, I might as well give up.” The truth is, God cares, others care, and you’re not alone. The devil knows that if he can make you feel sorry for yourself, have a pity party, and lose focus on your future, he has you. However, he is a liar, and despite our dire circumstance, our future remains bright. This was Paul’s emphasis when he wrote, “Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord” (v.58).

Beloved, we must persevere to the end, because that’s where our hope is. In everything that we endure, do, or experience, there’s a rainbow at the end of the road. It may not feel that way now, but we don’t walk according to our feelings, we walk by faith. When we persevere to the end, we will know that our labor was indeed worth the heartaches, pains, and disappointments that we faced.

Be encouraged my friends, and persevere to the end.

Love,

Pastor Penn

“God Won’t Forget You”

Text: Genesis: 40:21-23, “And he restored the chief butler unto his butlership again; and he gave the cup into Pharaoh’s hand:

But he hanged the chief baker: as Joseph had interpreted to them. Yet did not the chief butler remember Joseph, but forgot him.”

One of life’s tragedies is that people that we help the most, tend to hurt us the most. When we’re in the same boat, or they are struggling, and we help them, they promise not to forget us. Unfortunately, as soon as they get back on their feet, they forget about us, and renege on their promise to remember us.

This was what happened to Joseph. After he helped Pharaoh’s chief butler, and he was restored to his position as Joseph predicted when he interpreted his dream, he forgot Joseph. He didn’t remember Joseph until two years later when Pharaoh had a dream that others could not interpret. No doubt, Joseph felt abandoned by yet another person in his life, but he would come to realize that God would never forget, leave, or abandon him.

After 13 years of being abandoned and mistreated, Joseph’s story eventually turned around, because God was with him. We too can be confident that our situation will also turn around, because unlike people, God will not forget us.

Be encouraged my friends, God won’t forget you!

Love,

Pastor Penn

“The Thirst Quencher”

Text: John 4:13-14, “Jesus answered and said unto her, Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again: But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.”

Companies make a lot of money from sports drinks that promise to quench our thirst. Sports drinks like Gatorade, Powerade, and body armor are the ones that I’m familiar with. Of those three, I prefer body armor because it contains less sugar and calories, and it is based with coconut water. While I prefer body armor to quench my thirst, I’m aware that it can only satisfy my natural thirst. To quench my spiritual thirst, I need the refreshing water that only Jesus can provide.

Jesus emphasized this in his response to the Samaritan woman at the well, when He said, “Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again: But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life” (vv.13-14).

The water that Jesus offers is the refreshing waters of salvation that comes from a relationship with Him. It is the only thing that can quench our spiritual thirst, for it is living waters that are everlasting.

Beloved, only Jesus can satisfy the void in our lives, and the longing for God that’s in our soul. So, if you’re thirsty on today, don’t look no where else, but come to Jesus, and receive the living water, that can indeed quench your thirst.

Love,

Pastor Penn

“God is Able”

Text: John 6:12-13, “When they were filled, he said unto his disciples, Gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be lost.

Therefore they gathered them together, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves, which remained over and above unto them that had eaten.”

Problems tend to overwhelm us. Certain situations get the best of us because we are faced with insurmountable odds. Jesus miraculously feeding 5,000 plus is a powerful reminder that God is able to do anything.

Like Jesus’ disciples, we may only see our limited resources. For us, they may be simply five loaves and two small fish. However, when we place them in the Master’s hands, those five loaves and two fish are more than enough to feed the multitude. God will use anyone or anything to accomplish His will for our lives. All He needs from us is our trust and obedience and He will do the rest.

Beloved, I’m not sure what impossible situation that you may be facing but God wants you to know that whatever it is, it is not beyond His ability to fix.

God is able my friends!

Love,

Pastor Penn