

Faith that Works: Living Out of Your Beliefs

Faith Under Pressure: Joy in the Trials

Heavenly Father,

We come before you today with hearts full of gratitude and humility.

Thank you for unchanging nature

We confess our faith that is not merely theoretical, one that actively works, transforming our lives and impacting the world around us for our glory.

We pray that faith truly works. Help us with struggles, external pressures, difficult circumstances, understanding and isolation.

Give us supernatural perspectives to see these moments not as obstacles to our comfort.

Let perseverance finish its work in our lives so that we become mature and complete, lacking in nothing.

Grant us your divine wisdom, generosity and reproach

Help us to ask in faith without doubting.

Guide our hearts and minds for being double-minded and tossed to.

Establish our minds firmly on your truth and promises.

We recognize that we are tempted when we are tempted when we are lured by our own evil desires.

Deliver us from deception.

Remind us that you are never a source of evil or temptation.

Strengthen our resolve to resist the devil, flee from temptation and draw near you.

Help us confess our sins and purify our hearts and minds from every ungodly thought and intention.

We pray from deeper reception to your world.

Help us humbly accept the word planted in us that can save us.

Do not let us be hearers and deceive ourselves.

Help us keep unstained from the world.

Grant us discernment to recognize and courageously step away from environments, relationships and influences that would pull us away from your truth and towards sin. Give us hearts of impartiality and genuine love for all people including the poor, marginalized, broken and those people struggling towards sin.

In Jesus name, Amen

Authentic faith does not remove trials but enables us to find joy and wisdom in them, knowing God is refining us. The purpose of trials is testing faith and developing perseverance. I left Detroit recently without God finishing his work and perseverance on me. The source of wisdom in God is asking God. The blessedness of enduring temptation. Authentic faith is having a genuine, heartfelt relationship with God, not just superficial adherence to rules and practices. Authentic faith is trusting in God's character and power, lead to transformation of an individual inside and out, manifested through consistent service to others and devotion to prayer,

accompanied by humanity and sincere desire to seek God's will, seek God's glory, living out of one value, transformative journey to God's kingdom.

*"I am writing to the "twelve tribes"—Jewish believers scattered abroad. Greetings! Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. For you to know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing. If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and he will give it to you. He will not rebuke you for asking. But when you ask him, be sure that your faith is in God alone. Do not waver, for a person with divided loyalty is as unsettled as a wave of the sea that is blown and tossed by the wind. Such people should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. Their loyalty is divided between God and the world, and they are unstable in everything they do. Believers who are poor have something to boast about, for God has honored them. And those who are rich should boast that God has humbled them. They will fade away like a little flower in the field. The hot sun rises and the grass withers; the little flower drops and falls, and its beauty fades away. In the same way, the rich will fade away with all their achievements. God blesses those who patiently endure testing and temptation. Afterward they will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him."-James 1:1-12*

For our faith that truly works and grows strong, it demands more than just belief, it calls for intentional living. This means widely choosing to plant ourselves in environments rich with Christian fellowship and truth, deliberately separating from influences that tempt us towards sin and hinder spiritual vitality. When I was an undergraduate at DePaul University, I identified myself as a servant of God while I had to stay at Pacific Garden Mission and Olive Branch Mission earlier. As a servant of God, man of God and Bishop; I try to keep myself in a spiritual environment. After I was born again, I had difficulties with temptation and sufferings. That's why I do not talk to my mother that much because my mother likes to gossip about other people and so full of sin on the phone. I let God guide and help me with me with my vision to working through my temptation, trials, tribulation and sufferings. I liked what I learned from Star of Hope Mission after I October 2023 commencement that I learned how to have vision to God's kingdom to avoid pain in our life. When I was living in Detroit, I say it looks like God works in me to prosper me spiritually. I believe I went to Grand Rapids, Michigan by leaning on my own understanding. I feel like I am never struggling in Detroit and always get by financially and economically. God is refining my faith because I continue to read the bible, memorize key scriptures in the bible. I performed community prayers with people on the streets of Chicago. I continue to repent and confess my sins daily to keep the devil out of my mind, heart, body and soul. I do not want to walk and follow the path of Lucifer. When I am back in Detroit, I listen to my case manager, named Mr. Gray and other case manager Pastor John Johnson at Star of Hope Mission in Houston by making decision too fast and need to start to take my time to let God work in me. I pray and call on God to give me wisdom. I still need to work on stop making decisions too fast and take my time to let God work in me, stop leaning on my own

understanding, stop caring more for others at a trait and start balancing it out to care more for myself and still help the poor. The devil wants us to lean on our own understanding and make decisions by pride.

Our priorities in life need to do the following:

- Read and understand the bible daily.
- Avoid loving the world and possessions in the world.
- Pray to God daily for his wisdom.
- Recruit and build your 12 disciples to Jesus. I have 52 disciples and started out with 12 disciples.
- Avoid mammon and being a tax collector.
- Find a church home and stay loyal to the church.
- Keep yourself surrounded in a spiritual environment and around spiritual people to keep yourself humble to God and Holy Spirit, and obedient to God.
- Live with the fruit of the spirit.
- Parents need to care who their friends make friends with at school or when they are around them daily. There are too many children walking around in public and in school like they are grown with profanity and gossiping about people. Children today do not respect their elders in public and are disrespectful to people in public.
- Be motivated by going to church weekly, Sunday school and bible study services.
- Do not be takers from the world.

When I make decisions, I turn to God and his kingdom to ask Jesus to give me wisdom. Also, I turn to servants of God like Pastor John Johnson at Star of Hope Mission in Houston, ministers and deacons at Salem Baptist Church of Chicago, Pastor Devin Miller in Dallas, biological father, grandmother on the biological father side of family, for advice based on what I said about their sinning. You want to follow my path to go to people that will only provide you with advice from above, do not let no one give you advice that led you to sin, bondage, temptation, dating pool, do not let no one guide you to abomination. I mean do not let no one encourage you to be gay and/or LGBTQ that I call the LGBTQ community basket of sinful deplorables. If you are making a tough decision, you do not need to turn to no one in the world including gangs to get the answer. Gangs are not the answer because they represent the sin of the world. That is why violence in Chicago has been at an all-time high for many years after abolishing the projects and Robert Taylor Homes. I pray to God for things with patience and confidence. That's why I receive blessings from God and the Holy Spirit. When I read James 1:6, I think about how we need to keep our focus on God. We need to avoid having weak contentment and being unsure of ourselves. A person's faith is divided, or wavering will not receive from God because their instability reflects lack of genuine trust in him. We need to honor this verse while we take our Christian Walk to pray with conviction and stop being double-minded. When we pray, we need to pray and be sincere. When I was homeless at homeless shelters, I was in some challenging environments and no spiritual environment to nurture my faith. Sunday Breakfast Rescue

Mission now called the Philly House, Detroit Rescue Mission, Detroit Rescue Mission-Oasis, Pacific Garden Mission and Olive Branch Mission. It is painful to see individuals in any situation grapple with sin and not make Godly choices.

Read James 1:7-8

- Our environments profoundly shape us while we are rich or poor, homeless or not homeless to draw closer to God.
- The struggle with sin is real for everyone because of temptation, bondage, sin and abomination.
- The call to holiness and seeking a godly community is for all believers.

We need to honor the scriptures to our life by doing the following to increase our faith in God and Holy Spirit:

1. Embrace trial opportunities for growth (James 1:2-4)
2. Do not go to frustration or anger in any situation
3. Ask for wisdom in faith (James 1:5-8)
4. Redefine worth and boast in spiritual realities (James 1:9-11)
5. Do not put your trust, security and identity in wealth
6. Recognize your utter dependence on God and equality with all believers before him.
7. Combat materialism and worldly definitions of success.
8. Practice blessings in perseverance (James 1:12)