

Experiencing God's Glory in the Midst of Discomfort

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Scriptures:

- 1 Peter 5:10, *NLT*
- Romans 5:2, *NLT*
- Romans 5:2
- Galatians 5:6
- 1 John 4:19
- Deuteronomy 1:26-28
- 2 Corinthians 4:13
- 1 Peter 1:7
- Galatians 2:15-21, *MSG*
- John 9:1-4

Summary:

Living a Christian lifestyle is guaranteed to bring trouble, suffering, and persecution. The Bible tells us this and we can't ignore it; knowing why God permits trials and persecutions helps us learn how to handle them. Instead of passively accepting them, we must actively resist them; it's in the resistance that we maintain the victory that Jesus obtained for us. We do this by faith, knowing that God's grace will show up in the middle of it. Believing in God's love for us is the key to successfully moving through an uncomfortable situation; painful things don't happen because He hates us, but because He wants to mature us. Maturing without falling back into self-effort requires that we depend on God, not on ourselves. Letting Him work in us to change us from the inside allows Him to transform us into the mirror image of Christ.

Notes:

1. Going through adversity and suffering enables God's power to manifest itself in our lives. After suffering through something, we experience God's glory when He restores, supports, and strengthens us, and places us on a firm foundation.
2. Our faith in God's unearned, undeserved favor causes manifestations of His glory to appear in our lives.
3. God loves us, even in the midst of trouble. Enduring pain teaches us to depend on Him.
4. Going through discomfort tries our faith and purifies it. God will continue working on us until we have complete dependence on Him. He uses adversity and trouble to do this.

Category: faith

Keywords: discomfort, trouble, suffering, persecution, victory, faith, believing, maturing