Cornerstones Of Faith

"Perseverance"

Luke 8:15

The Christian life is NOT always a Mountaintop Experience!

The Christian's Life is NOT a 50 Yard Dash, it's MORE like a Marathon.

Today, we'll find Encouragements that describe HOW & WHY we ALL need to PERSEVERE through the inevitable Struggles of life.

- 1. PERSEVERANCE PRODUCES RESULTS (Luke 8:4-8)
- What's the BIG <u>DIFFERENCE</u> between this last Group & the Rest? (v.15)
- They **PERSEVERE**, allowing their faith to take **ROOT** & produce **FRUIT**.
- What FRUIT does this kind of Perseverance produce? New Believers.
- THIS is one of the GREAT Values of YOUR Redemption Story.

2. LIFE'S TRIALS WILL MAKE YOU STRONGER (James 1:2-4)

- A Key Aspect of perseverance is <u>Patience</u>.
- Learn to Patiently <u>Allow</u> trials to <u>Build</u> in you a <u>Reinvigorated</u> & <u>Resilient</u> <u>Faith</u> in the Goodness of God.
- God <u>Promises</u> that with Great <u>Trial</u> comes Greater <u>Grace</u>. (2 Cor. 12:9)
- God Wants you to view trials as "Opportunities for Spiritual Growth."

3. CHRIST ENDURED GREAT PAIN FOR US (Hebrews 12:1-3)

- Jesus PAID a Debt He didn't owe because We OWED a Debt we couldn't pay.
- YOU are the "JOY that was set before Him." (Heb. 12:2)
- God will **See Us** *Through* to the **END**. (Philippians 1:6)
- "What God STARTS, God FINISHES."

4. GOD HONORS THOSE WHO PERSEVERE (2 Timothy 4:7-8)

- When the End Comes Near for US, we can only look in Two Directions...
- 1. Paul Looked BACK (v.7)
- 2. Paul Also Looked AHEAD (v.8)
- <u>Live in light of the Lord's Return, Live in Obedience</u> to God's Word & <u>Do</u> the Work He's called you to do, you'll be <u>Crowned</u>.

• Is there Crown of Righteousness laid up for <u>YOU</u>?