



APPNOTES

Date: December 3-7, 2018

Series: God With Us

Isaiah 40:28-31 Think of a time in your life when you had to make a big life decision. Did you feel pressure? How did you handle that pressure? When facing that much stress, you may feel weak and not want to make the decision. It is in these times that God is with you to give you strength in the stressful time. In Isaiah 40:29 it states, “He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.” God is with you to make you stronger in the times of stress. If you are feeling the pressures of life, now know that God is with you to give you the strength that you need. You are not facing it alone.

James 1:2-12 Life isn't perfect. James tell us that there is joy to be found in hard times by seeking God. James 1:2 tells us to, “Consider it pure joy my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.” Making it through the trial is a test from God and your faith will be stronger because of it. James also tells us in 1:12, “Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love Him.” There is light at the end of your trial, trust that God will help get you there.

John 16:33 When you're going through a tough time, the last thing you want to be told is to suck it up and deal with it. God doesn't tell us to toughen up and deal with it, He offers comfort and peace. He is a sounding board to help you find peace and comfort in the tough times. John 16:33 says, “I have told you these things so that in Me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But, take heart! I have overcome the world.” God has overcome the world! He's an amazing person to have in your corner. The next time you're facing a tribulation, know that God is there to listen and comfort you because He loves you.

Daniel 3:1-30 Have you heard the story of the three Christ followers thrown into a fiery furnace and walking out alive? The short version of the story is that King Nebuchadnezzar built an idol for everyone to worship. If someone failed to bow down and worship this idol of gold,

they would be punished. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego refused to worship this new idol and told the king, “If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to deliver us from it, and He will deliver us from Your Majesty’s hand.” They were thrown into the furnace. God was with them in the fire and protected them from harm. If God was willing to save the lives of those who trusted Him in the fiery furnace, He is willing to help you in your time of need.

1 Peter 1:3-9 Have you ever heard the saying, “what doesn’t kill you makes you stronger”? In times of trial, you face tough decisions, and, through that troubled time, you come out stronger on the other side. No one will say they like going through hard times, but it is how you handle the hard time that separates who you are as a believer in Christ. 1 Peter 1:6-7 states, “In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.” The next time you face pain, don’t ask God merely for a way out, ask him for strength to grow from it.

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