

Abiding Amidst the Storm

Teresa Perry



"Apart from HIM, we can do nothing"

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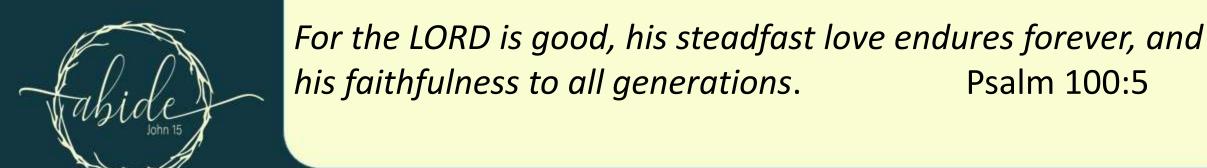
God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Psalm 46:1

The LORD is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble, he knows those who take refuge in him.

Nahum 1:7

As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him. Psalm 103:13



Psalm 23:4

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.









I am the good shepherd.

John 10:11





John 15:1-4

I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. 2. Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. 3. Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. 4. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.

Fruit is the visible evidence of our relationship with Christ and His work in our lives.

- Courage & obedience to serve God
- Encouraging or discipling others
- Verbal praise to God
- Showing mercy & forgiveness

- Evangelism
- Faith, Love, Joy, Peace
- Patience, Steadfastness
- Goodness, Kindness
- Gentleness, Self-Control
- Good Works
- Godly Wisdom
- Spiritual discernment

John 15:8,11

15:8 By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.

15:11 These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.



Pruning and stormy trials can ultimately lead to a transformed life that produces more fruit, glorifies God, makes us more like Christ in our character, blesses us with joy, and deepens our faith.

Faith is more precious than gold.

In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire- may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation

of Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 1:6-8

Suffering produces endurance, endurance produces character, and character produces hope.

... we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance (perseverance), and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

Romans 5:3

Trials test our faith and produce spiritual maturity.

Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have it's full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

James 1:2-4

Examples of Pruning:

- Conviction over sin you need to turn away from
- Financial or relationship problems
- Persecution
- Sickness, injury
- Heartache
- Attack of the enemy



Joseph said to his brothers:

"As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today."



Genesis 50:20

God will use whatever is happening in our lives for His glory, for His purposes, and for our good if we abide in Him.

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good,
for those who are called according to his purpose.



Romans 8:28

When storms and trials come, and they will, our job is to always abide in Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit.





Holy Spirit: Helper, Spirit of Truth

I will ask the Father and he will give you another
Helper to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth,
whom the world cannot receive, because it neither
sees him nor knows him. You know him, for
he dwells with you and will be in you.

John 14:16-17

John 14:26 "Helper" = parakletos

Outline of Biblical Usage [?]

- L. summoned, called to one's side, esp. called to one's aid
 - one who pleads another's cause before a judge, a pleader, counsel for defense, legal assistant, an advocate
 - 2. one who pleads another's cause with one, an intercessor
 - of Christ in his exaltation at God's right hand, pleading with God the Father for the pardon of our sins
 - 3. in the widest sense, a helper, succourer, aider, assistant
 - 1. of the Holy Spirit destined to take the place of Christ with the apostles (after his ascension to the Father), to lead them to a deeper knowledge of the gospel truth, and give them divine strength needed to enable them to undergo trials and persecutions on behalf of the divine kingdom



Strong's Definitions [?]

(Strong's Definitions Legend)

παράκλητος paráklētos, par-ak'-lay-tos; an intercessor, consoler:—advocate, comforter.



Peace, not Fear

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.

Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid."

John 14:27

Jesus said, "I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

John 16:33



Abiding in Christ Amid Stormy Trials

- Prayer
- Reading and Studying the Bible
- Worship and Fellowship with other believers
- Christian music/hymns of faith



Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 4:16



Calling on the name of the Lord (OT/NT) Seeking God's favor (Ex 32:11) Pouring out one's soul to the Lord (1 Sam 1:15) Crying out to heaven (2 Chron 32:20) **Drawing near to God (Psalm 73:28) Kneeling before the Father (Eph 3:14)**

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Phil 4:6-7



And going a little further he fell on his face and prayed, saying, "My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will."



Jesus, Matthew 26:39

Reading and Studying the Bible

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Psalm 119:105



Reading and Studying the Bible

All scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.



2 Tim 3:16

Worship/Fellowship with Other Disciples

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Acts 2:42

Worship/Fellowship with Other Disciples

We are instructed in the Bible "not to neglect meeting together," but "to stir up one another to love and good works," and "encourage one another."

Hebrews 10:24-25



Worship/Fellowship with Other Disciples

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

2 Cor 1:3-4



Christian Music/Hymns of Faith

Followers of Christ are instructed to "address one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart."

Tabide John 15

Ephesians 5:19

"Even If" by MercyMe

MercyMe "Even If" with Testimony

MercyMe "Even If"



No eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined what God has prepared for those who love him.

2 Cor 2:9

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope!

Romans 15:13



"Apart from HIM, we can do nothing"