

THE LIFE OF CHRIST IN THE GOSPELS
Class #187 – Sunday AM1 December 9, 2007

It is important to ensure fellowship with God before the study of the Word.

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9).

Isaiah 55:11 So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; it will not return to Me empty, without accomplishing what I desire, and without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it.

- In our last class, the Lord returned to Capernaum from the eastern side of the Sea of Galilee.



- He remained along the seashore to teach the crowd because they welcomed Him.

Fishing Boat – Sea of Galilee



MARK 4:36-41



- He then responded to the synagogue official's request to heal his 12 year old daughter.
- On the way to the official's house, the Lord healed a woman who had been hemorrhaging for 12 years.
- While all this was going on, the little girl died before Jesus arrived at the house.

However, since all things are possible with our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, He commanded **“Talitha kum!”** [Aramaic- “Little girl, stand up”] and she heard his voice from among the dead and obeyed.

Seven Points of Doctrine in Review

1. POD: It's best to turn to the Lord and seek first His guidance.

Mark 5:25-26 A woman who had had a hemorrhage for twelve years, ²⁶ and had endured much at the hands of many physicians, and had spent all that she had and was not helped at all, but rather had grown worse—

John 14:13 Whatever you ask in My name, that will I do. . .

✚ *How do we seek first His guidance?*

James 1:5 But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

2. POD: Regardless of the outcome, it is better to put your trust in the Lord and what He can do as opposed to physicians (Mark 5:25-36).

Mark 5:35-36 While He was still speaking, they came from the *house of* the synagogue official, saying, “Your daughter has died; why trouble the Teacher anymore?” ³⁶ But Jesus, overhearing what was being spoken, said to the synagogue official, “Do not be afraid *any longer*, only believe.”

φοβέω - PHOBEO - “Do not *allow yourself to be afraid, keep on believing!*”

Luke adds in his account, *and she will be saved.*

3. POD (Revised): The Lord lives to encourage the faith of those who *continue to trust in Him.*

Just as the Lord encouraged the faith of the synagogue official in the face of a bad report with a promise, so He encourages our faith with the promises in His infallible Word.

4. POD: The believer's standing order in times of testing is to keep on believing the Savior's promises.

Your trust is not only in the veracity of His Word but in His person!

5. POD: Calamity is permitted to allow our faith to summit the highest point on the promises of God.

“Trouble is under the control of Almighty God, and is one of His most efficient agents in fulfilling His purposes and in perfecting His saints. God's hand is in every trouble which breaks into the lives of men” (E. M. Bounds, *The Complete Works of E. M. Bounds on Prayer*, p. 101).

Psalm 50:15 “Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I shall rescue you, and you will honor Me.”

Psalm 91:15 “He will call upon Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him.”

- The issue in suffering is whether or not we will call upon the Lord in prayer; whether or not our faith will reach a decisive point in His promises.
- As we pray through times of suffering and sink our teeth into the promises of God, we will summit the Grand Tetons of the spiritual life.



Will your faith culminate in the promises of God?

6. POD: Those who walk by faith have the honor of treading with the Lord where others do not (Mark 5:37).

Mark 5:37 And He allowed no one to accompany Him, except Peter and James and John the brother of James.

7. POD: When the believer walks by faith in the Person and Promises of his Savior, not only will he venture where others will not, he will experience blessed realities that others cannot, and His Savior will show Him wonderful things because he has eyes to see throughout his life.

It is important to understand the concept of trusting in the Person of Jesus Christ.

He is not a book.

He is not Bible doctrine.

HE IS A PERSON.

Matthew 9:35-36 Jesus was going through all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness. ³⁶ Seeing the people, He felt compassion for them . . .

- **σπλαγχνίζομαι - SPLAGCHNIZOMAI** – The emotion of our Savior responding to those who were suffering. He possessed a sympathetic consciousness – He had pity.

We have a high priest who can sympathize with our weaknesses (**Hebrews 4:15**).

. . . because they were distressed and dispirited like sheep without a shepherd.

- As a shepherd, it grieves you to see your sheep suffering.
- A good shepherd should have compassion for the flock.

We have a compassionate Savior.

2 Timothy 3:10-12 Now you followed my teaching, conduct, purpose, faith, patience, love, perseverance, ¹¹ persecutions, *and* sufferings, such as happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium *and* at Lystra; what persecutions I endured, and out of them all the Lord rescued me!

🔥 **Psalm 50:15** “Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I shall rescue you, and you will honor Me.”

🔥 **Psalm 91:15** “He will call upon Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him.

¹² Indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted [suffer].”

- desire to live godly - οἱ θέλοντες εὐσεβῶς ζῆν
- θέλω – THELO – “To wish, to desire, to want” - - **The ones who are desiring**
- ζῶω – ZAO – “To live”
- εὐσεβῶς – EUSEBOS – “To living the way God wants you to live”

Being who God wants you to be!

Doing what God wants you to do!

Going where God wants you to go!

2 Timothy 2:3 Suffer hardship [συγκακοπαθέω - endure suffering] with me, as a good soldier of Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!

1 Thessalonians 5:18 in everything give thanks; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.

Why should we give thanks?

How can we?

We should endure suffering - - because it is the will of God.

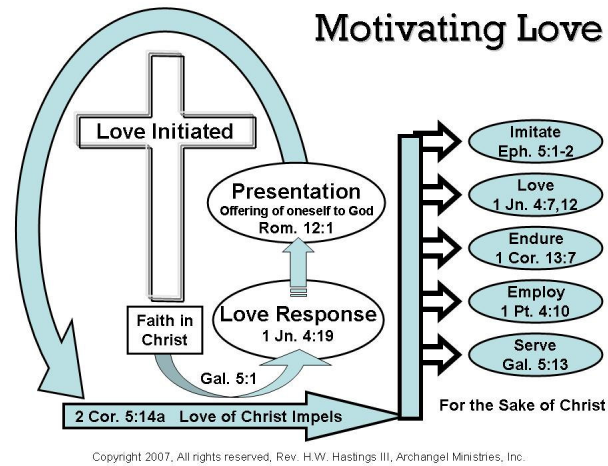
2 Corinthians 4:16-18 Therefore we do not lose heart, but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷ For momentary, light affliction is **producing for us an eternal weight of glory** far beyond all comparison,

We should endure suffering because “. . . it is producing for us an eternal weight of glory.”

¹⁸ while we look [while we are suffering] not at the things which are seen [the condition or the problem], but at the things which are not seen [our Savior - His promises]; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

1 Peter 1:6-7 In this you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials, ⁷ so that **the proof** [δοκιμιον – DOKIMION - genuineness] **of your faith**, being more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

We should endure suffering because it will “. . . result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.”



Romans 5:3-5 And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; ⁴ and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope; ⁵ and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

➤ **Revelation** - The appearing of our Great God and Savior when He comes for us in the clouds at the resurrection of the Church.

2 Timothy 4:8 in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing.

➤ Without suffering how will you long for the blessed hope of His appearing?

POD: Suffering is an opportunity to seize the crown of righteousness.

POD: Suffering is part of the work God had prepared for you (Ephesians 4:10).

Walking in that work of suffering is predicated on your willingness to do His will.

¹² Indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.

Want to endure?

Walk by the Spirit (**Galatians 5:16**) - - trust the promises of God - - trust in your Savior.

POD: We can rest in suffering.

Christ is our Exemplar – the “author and perfecter of our faith” - follow His lead.

As Christ enables you to endure the storms of life you will be able to rest in times of suffering.

All Scriptures quoted are from New American Standard unless otherwise noted.