

PERSEVERANCE

“The Lord is close to all who call on Him, yes, to all who call on him in truth.” Psalm 145:18

Adulthood is tough. Bills, jobs, kids, bills, dumb family members, bills, responsibilities, loss, disappointment, conflict, etc. Sometimes I long for my Sega Genesis and a PB&J after school with some cartoons. But alas, we all have to grow up at some point.

Romans 5:1-5 says, “Therefore, since we have been made right in God’s sight by faith, we have peace with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us. Because of our faith, Christ has brought us into this place of undeserved privilege where we now stand, and we confidently and joyfully look forward to sharing God’s glory. We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance. And endurance develops strength of character, and character strengthens our confident hope of salvation. And this hope will not lead to disappointment. For we know how dearly God loves us, because he has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love.”

Take some time to reflect on this passage and answer some of the questions below.

- What are your greatest struggles in life right now?
- In the midst of your struggles, what level of comfort do you find in knowing that you have peace with God?
- Do you ever lose sight of “sharing in God’s glory” in the midst of your struggles? What can you do to keep that in focus?

- **In what areas of struggle have you learned to develop endurance?**

- **How has your character been developed as a result of your struggles? Have you ever stopped to thank God for that?**

- **How's your hope? Are you losing hope in any particular area of life? What can be done to restore hope to that area?**

- **How have you allowed the Holy Spirit to guide you, sustain you and keep you moving forward in your struggles?**

As you finish answering these questions, take some time to pray, asking God for...

Strength in the midst of your struggle

Determination to persevere

Discipline to ask for His guidance

Continued hope for what's to come

Guidance on how to be the man/woman that God is calling you to be

Lastly, if you were able to get away to complete this devotional and you're already done, just act like you're still working on it so you can have some alone time. Use the space below to doodle to make it look like you're still working.