
SOLA FIDE

Ongoing Faithfulness

“Faithfulness” is a familiar and well-consented term among believers in the Christian community. Although it’s one of the most basic traits of Christian living, daily faithful living can be somewhat challenging. It is especially true when we face seasons of suffering, busyness, and dryness in our lives. In this short writing, I would like to address these three specific seasons that can cause hindrance to believers’ faithfulness and the remedy for these circumstances.

The first season that can hinder faithfulness in the life of a believer is the season of hardships. Suffering can range from physical ailments to the grief of losing a loved one. Sufferings such as these can challenge the faith of a believer, causing him or her to question God’s love and grace. However, it is times like this that Christians must be faithful unto God all the more because suffering is God’s sovereign design for his people’s growth. Romans 5:3-4 states that “suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope.” In the end, Christians grow, mature, and become sanctified all the more through various sufferings and hardships in life (Romans 8:28). Christians are not exempt from encountering various life sufferings, yet knowing that it produces growth, we have all the more the reason to be faithful.

The second season that can hinder faithfulness in the life of a believer is the season of busyness. Busyness can vary from work to family, school to church, and etc. When busyness overwhelms our lives, it can cause us to be anxious and shift our focus away from God. Scripture does teach the believers to be good stewards of our daily responsibilities (Matthew 25:21, Colossians 3:23-24, 1 Peter 4:10), yet they are not the priority in the lives of the believers. God is well aware of all that we need in our daily living (Matthew 6:32), yet God

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“Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.”

- 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24 -

“Life is not a straight line leading from one blessing to the next and then finally to heaven. Life is a winding and troubled road. Switchback after switchback. And the point of biblical stories like Joseph and Job and Esther and Ruth is to help us feel in our bones (not just know in our heads) that God is for us in all these strange turns. God is not just showing up after the trouble and cleaning it up. He is plotting the course and managing the troubles with far-reaching purposes for our good and for the glory of Jesus Christ.”

- John Piper -

reminds us that our life is worth more than things we attain in this world (Matthew 6:25). Perhaps the most clearest instruction is given in Matthew 6:33, “But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.” Amid our busy, anxiety-driven busy life, we are to pursue after God and His kingdom foremost because that is the calling we have received. Let us prioritize God and His righteousness!

The third season that can hinder faithfulness in the life of a believer is the season of dryness. Dryness in one’s spiritual life can be caused by many things, yet even greater danger is when we follow our feelings or emotions of dryness as guide to our spiritual life. There will be seasons of dryness in Christian life; it may be due to sin, lack of interaction with believers in the local body, lack of prayer life, and more. However, Christians are to remember that spiritual life is like a long-distance race (1 Corinthians 9:24, Galatians 5:7, Philippians 2:16), which may not always be easy and pleasant throughout. So, every Christian has to remember apostle Paul’s words while running his long-distance race, “I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 3:14). This means that Christians have to press on through the

seasons of dryness. Several things that can help Christians to persevere through the long distance race are: deeper engagement with the Word of God, consistent prayer life and ongoing fellowship within the local body of the believers. As we run this long-distance race, let us continue to press on in faithfulness!

Although believers are forever redeemed, Christians will continue to encounter various challenging seasons because we live in a sinful world. However, take heart for we are more than conquerors in Christ Jesus our Lord who loves us (Romans 8:37). We are more than able to continually be faithful regardless of the different seasons of life because He who began a good work in us will be faithful to complete them!

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