

PERSEVERING FAITH

Refueled – Part 6

ON TV: If God is good, why is there so much injustice and suffering in the world?

ON TV: It is in our suffering and the injustice that we actually experience the grace and **persevering** power of God.

ON TV: What is it that makes the difference?

ON TV: Suffering does not prove that God doesn't exist.

ON TV: Christians believe in a God who allowed the worst possible thing to happen to the best possible person, Jesus Christ.

ON TV: **"Follow me."**

ON TV: "Believe in me."

ON TV: What would I **do** if I were absolutely confident that God was with me?

ON TV: What is it that refuels the development of that kind of active, persevering, amazing faith?

ON TV: What are the essential ingredients to that kind of faith?

ON TV: Practical Faith Building Application

ON TV: When our acts faith **intersect** with God's faithfulness, our faith gets bigger.

ON TV: Personal Ministry

ON TV: God-sent relationships

ON TV: Spiritual Disciplines

ON TV: Pivotal Circumstances

ON TV: *"God whispers to us in our pleasure but He shouts to us in our pain." – C. S. Lewis --The Problem of Pain*

ON TV/OUTLINE: "...because you know that the testing of your faith produces **perseverance**." James 1:3

ON TV: We don't even know what we actually believe until what we claim to believe **has been tested**.

ON TV/OUTLINE: "...You give them something to eat" Matthew 14:16b

ON TV: Jesus often created pivotal circumstances for his disciples in order to get them ready for what was coming.

ON TV/OUTLINE: "32a 'But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail...' 33 'Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death.'" Luke 22:32a-33

ON TV/OUTLINE: "7b 'By what power or what **name** did you do this?' 10b 'It is by the **name of Jesus Christ** of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed.' 13 When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and took note that these men had **been with Jesus**." Acts 4:7b, 10b, 13

ON TV: Tested faith is how we discover if we have **real faith**.

ON TV: BOLDNESS

ON TV: Because their faith was **BIG!**

ON TV: Those unforeseen pivotal circumstances are one of the things that God uses to **grow our faith**.

ON TV: Why is it that some people can face extraordinary circumstances and come out with bigger faith and some people come out with less faith?

ON TV:

1. **What** we believe
2. **Who** we listen to
3. **How** we frame it

ON TV: Jesus-centered faith.

ON TV/OUTLINE: “2a ‘...Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents?’ 3b ‘...this happened so that the work of God might be displayed in his life.’” John 9:2a, 3b

ON TV: God, help me to see as you see.

ON TV/OUTLINE: “I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble...” John 16:33a

ON TV: The God who doesn’t allow bad things to happen to good people, was not the God of Jesus.

ON TV/OUTLINE: “...But take heart! I have overcome the world.” John 16:33b