

# The God Of Now

## Part 5: In Times Of Growth



The best thing we can do to prepare ourselves for unknowns is **GROW** our Faith. We can't tame the wind, but we can turn our sails.

Hebrews 11:1-3,6 (TPT) describes *faith*:

"1 Now faith brings our hopes into reality and becomes the foundation needed to acquire the things we long for. It is all the evidence required to prove what is still unseen. 2 This testimony of faith is what previous generations were commended for. 3 Faith empowers us to see that the universe was created and beautifully coordinated by the power of God's words! He spoke and the invisible realm gave birth to all that is seen.

6 And without faith living within us it would be impossible to please God. For we come to God in faith knowing that he is real and that he rewards the faith of those who give all their passion and strength into seeking him."

The *result* of *faith* is this: "The act of faith is what distinguished our ancestors, setting them above the crowd." (TMB) *God is not impressed with your talent, but your trust. God is not impressed with your competence, but your confidence. God is not impressed with your feats, but your faith.* 2 Corinthians 5:7 ⇒ "We walk by faith, not by sight."

On our Christian journey, storms arise. The growth is in the wilderness, the hard place, and OUT of your comfort zone.

John 16:33: "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." **The Promise Is Not For A Life Without Struggle, But For Strength In The Struggle.**

**God's Got You, No Matter What You Face** ⇒ 1 Corinthians 10:13:

"No temptation ("test") has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it."

### The Top 8 Growth Principles:

1) The Principle Of Intention: Purpose Is Power

2) The Principle Of Pain: No Sweat, No Get.

3) The Principle of Pruning: The Mountain Is You

4) The Principle Of Containment: Containment Now Builds Capacity Later

⇒ What Looks Like Being Contained Is Actually Building Capacity. We Train In Order To Reign.

⇒ Acts 1:4-5: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about.

5 For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

- ⇒ Success Is Where Preparation And Opportunity Meet. Proper Preparation Prevents Poor Performance.
- ⇒ Use Seasons Of Containment Now To Build Capacity For Later.

## 5) The Principle Of Feeding: Inputs Determine Outputs

- ⇒ What Flows In Must Flow Out. GIGO: Garbage In, Garbage Out.
- ⇒ Galatians 6:7-9: "7 Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. 8 Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. 9 Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."
- ⇒ High Quality Performance Is About High Quality Feed. Your Feeding Determines Your Fitness, Your Flourishing, And Your Future. Whatever You Feed Daily Will Become Your Reality.
- ⇒ Personal Healing And Recovery Often Look Like:
  - ♥ *Quality Time With Yourself...* To de-compress and de-stress as you process life...
  - ♥ *Quality Time With People Who Replenish You...* Be aware of the impact of others on your personal energy.

## 6) The Principle Of Consistency: Success Is The Sum Of Repeatable Actions

- ⇒ Evaluate Yourself Based On Seeds Sown Rather Than Harvest Grown.
- ⇒ Proverbs 13:23: "Abundant food is in the uncultivated ground of the poor..."
- ⇒ Proverbs 24:30-34: "30 I went past the field of a sluggard, past the vineyard of someone who has no sense; 31 thorns had come up everywhere, the ground was covered with weeds, and the stone wall was in ruins. 32 I applied my heart to what I observed and learned a lesson from what I saw: 33 A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest—34 and poverty will come on you like a thief and scarcity like an armed man."
- ⇒ Success Is The Sum Of Repeatable Actions, Day In and Out. Aristotle: "*We Are What We Repeatedly Do. Excellence, Then, Is Not An Act, But A Habit.*"

## 7) The Principle Of Incremental Improvement: Aim For 1 Instead Of 100

- ⇒ Small Consistent Improvements Over Time Lead To Massive Results. Aim To Get 1% Better Daily. Little Things Matter.
- ⇒ Proverbs 6:6-8: "Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise! 7 It has no commander, no overseer or ruler, 8 yet it stores its provisions in summer and gathers its food at harvest."
- ⇒ Small Consistent Improvements Over Time Lead To Massive Results. This Is The Aggregation Of Marginal Gains.
- ⇒ Where Can You Improve 1% Each Day?

## 8) The Principle Of Failure: Failure Is Neither Fatal, Nor Final

- ⇒ The Surest Path To Success Is Failure. Even The Very Best "Fail" Their Way To Success:
- ⇒ Proverbs 24:16: "For though the righteous fall seven times, they rise again, but the wicked stumble when calamity strikes."
- ⇒ Luke 22:31-32: "31 Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift all of you as wheat. 32 But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers."