

Persevere

Our Mission: To take as many people to Heaven as we can, before we die. Period.

1. God allows difficulties to enter your life to mature you. Let it change you.

Consider it a sheer gift, friends, when tests and challenges come at you from all sides. You know that under pressure, your faith-life is forced into the open and shows its true colors. So don't try to get out of anything prematurely. Let it do its work so you become mature and well-developed, not deficient in any way. **James 1:2-4 MSG**

2. Don't run from your fight. Finish what you started.

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith; 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. **2 Timothy 4:7-8 NASB**

3. Decide to become better and not bitter.

Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you. **Ephesians 4:31-32 ESV**

4. When you persevere, your influence is greater.

We ought to thank God always for you, brothers and sisters, and rightly so, because your faith flourishes more and more and the love of each one of you all for one another is ever greater. As a result we ourselves boast about you in the churches of God for your perseverance and faith in all the persecutions and afflictions you are enduring. **2 Thessalonians 1:3-4 NET**

Message Notes: The Holy Bible, English Standard Version, New Living Translation, New American Standard Bible. The Living Bible, paraphrased edition, The NET Bible. A Life God Rewards, by Dr. Bruce Wilkinson.