



*"I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.*

*Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."*

*Philippians 3:10-14*

*"For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain."*

*Philippians 1:21*

*“Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.”*

*Philippians 2:17-18*

*“Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!”*

*Philippians 4:4*

## **Perseverance:**

**Pressing on through what is painful because we are anchored to what is certain—the great and precious promises of God that no suffering can touch.**

If contentment is the destination,  
then perseverance is the *journey*.

*"For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain."*

*Philippians 1:21*

**There are those that persevere,  
and there are those that just “get through it”.**

*"I came to you in weakness, and fear, and with much trembling."*

*(1 Corinthians 2:3)*

*"We were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure,  
so that we despaired of life itself."*

*(2 Corinthians 1:8)*

*"For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe in him, but also to suffer for him."*

*Philippians 1:29*

*"I want to know Christ – yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead."*

*Philippians 3:10-11*

**Suffering *can* be the place where Christ is most intimately known.**

*“For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.”*

*Romans 8:18*

*"Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God.*

*'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.' He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."*

*Revelation 21:1-5*

*"We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure."*

*Hebrews 6:19*

**How you experience your present reality is completely shaped by what you believe your ultimate future to be.**

**When suffering strikes you will not rise to the occasion.  
You will default to your training.**

Saturate your mind in Scripture before you need it.

**Practice turning toward God instead of away from Him.**

**“The deeper into weakness and suffering and testing we go, the deeper Christ’s solidarity with us. As we go down into pain and anguish, we are descending ever deeper into Christ’s very heart, not away from it.”**

**Dane Ortlund**

**Keep eternity in front of you.**

***“So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.”***

***(2 Corinthians 4:18)***

