

Hang in there!

(A believer's guide to survival during hard times)

"Keep putting into practice all you learned and received from me—everything you heard from me and saw me doing. Then the God of peace will be with you." Philipians 4:9

VI. Practice faith!

A. Practice your faith!

B. Scripture is the practice manual.

"All you learned and received from me—everything you heard from me and saw me doing."

C. Practice results in a greater presence!

Then the God of peace will be with you."

Real life scenarios to "practicing" the faith.

1. Practicing the faith will be an intentional daily choice.

Rom 12: And so, dear brothers and sisters,^[a] I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him.^[b] ² Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

2. Practicing the faith will difficult



I Peter 4:12 Dear friends, don't be surprised at the fiery trials you are going through, as if something strange were happening to you.

4. Practicing the faith will never be passive

James 2: 17 So you see, faith by itself isn't enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless.

5. Practicing the faith will come with some setbacks

Romans 7:²¹ I have discovered this principle of life—that when I want to do what is right, I inevitably do what is wrong. ²² I love God's law with all my heart. ²³ But there is another power^{el} within me that is at war with my mind. This power makes me a slave to the sin that is still within me. ²⁴ Oh, what a miserable person I am! Who will free me from this life that is dominated by sin and death? ²⁵ Thank God! The answer is in Jesus Christ our Lord. So you see how it is: In my mind I really want to obey God's law, but because of my sinful nature I am a slave to sin.

6. Practicing the faith can start today!

Close:

“Keep putting into practice all you learned and received from me—everything you heard from me and saw me doing. Then the God of peace will be with you.” Paul