



Date: 07/21/25

Speaker: Bishop Darrick Fields

### **Scripture**

1 John 3:17-18

- How can God's love exist in someone that is living well and they see someone in need and they don't help? Don't just say you love, actually show it.

2 Corinthians 9:6-15

- God is the one that provides and prospers. So as God has given freely, we, as believers, should give freely. The good deeds will be remembered.
- There are 2 things that will happen when you give generously:
  - The poor will be taken care of
  - They will give thanks to God

2 Timothy 2:14-16, 19-22

- As a believer, we avoid worthless and foolish talk. Avoid conversing with those that are living in the flesh. We know it will happen, we must avoid it when we see it creeping up.
- "Run from" those that stimulate fleshly responses and run towards those that encourage righteous living. Believers that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

1 Timothy 6:11-12

- Do not set your affections on anything in this world. Instead we should be pursuing "righteousness and a godly life, along with faith, love, perseverance, and gentleness."
- God reveals truths during hard times. Hard times don't indicate that we are in the wrong place, it's just revealing what is or isn't there in us. Our faith is tested in trials.

2 Timothy 3:12

- Persecution comes with living a godly life. However, it's refining you; getting you to a place where you truly call on the Lord.
- God will bring us to a place where we are focused only on Him and the fulfillment of His will in our life.

2 Timothy 4:5

- Stay focused with a clear mind by giving thanks to God, staying in the word and sharing the word of God when going through the times of suffering.

#### Matthew 5:9-12

- God blesses those that work for peace, that are persecuted for doing right, who are mocked and persecuted for being a follower of Jesus. Count these moments as blessings where rewards are awaiting you.
- Endure through it and be glad. It is a blessing to suffer for Christ.
- We suffer through unrighteous behavior, why shouldn't we be willing to suffer for righteous living for Christ?

#### Mark 4:15-20

- Are you hungry to hear God's voice? What kind of ground are you?
  - As soon as God's word is shared, Satan immediately comes and snatches it up (seed falls on a footpath).
  - You receive the word joyfully but get consumed by the world when things go wrong (seed falls on rocky ground).
  - You hear the word but it is choked out by the worries of this life, the lure of wealth, and the desire for other things (seeds fall amongst thorns).
  - You hear the word and receive it (seed falls on good ground).
    - Sometimes people will hear the word but focus on who delivered the word or how. Don't allow these things to distract you from actually receiving the word.

Persecution comes for the sake of the word. Don't get offended when persecution arises. If doing the will of God, be glad (1 Peter 4:13) and then ask God to reveal why you were offended. However, remember to not engage in or get pulled into any foolish activity.