

• *The blacksmith with the tongs works one in the coals, Fashions it with hammers, And works it with the strength of his arms. Isaiah 44:12*

• We're all somewhere in the blacksmith's shop. We're either on the scrap pile, in the Master's hands on the anvil, or in the armory.

• **Strength- Vision, Purpose**

• **Christianity is not just removing something from you but forging something into you.**

• **A faith that has been tested is a faith that can be trusted.**

✓ **Faith is built in the Fire.**

• *Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. 1 Peter 4:12*

• **Process- Heat it up, beat on it, back in fire-Sunday...**

• You must be kept hot to be molded. Cold-Break!!

✓ **Get comfortable being uncomfortable**

• ~~✂~~ Not everything is going to come easily.

• **People hate pain (Not true) – People hate pain w/o a purpose!**

• Whenever feels like devil is attacking you—testing you!

✓ **Sometimes God's preparation comes packaged as pain.**

● Don't just look at life from a perspective of pain.

• Here's what I've lost — What hurts — What's not fair!

• ~~✂~~ **See your pain from a perspective of purpose.**

• God forges fight in you. Faith in you. Purpose into you.

~~✂~~ **God is not forging you for A battle. He is forging you for A War!**

• Kim put solo cup in dish washer. You are not plastic wear.

✓ **Greater the pain — Bigger the purpose!**

• **God wants to do something IN you before He can do something THROUGH you!**

✓ **If you resist the anvil you forfeit the battle.**

• **Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. 1 Corinthians 16:3**

• **Church is not built on people who come and go. It's built on the people who stay.**

• *We all could have left 1000x because we're all messed up.*

• **Christianity is a battle ground not a playground.**

• I'm concerned that I'm meeting men who still act like boys. Women acting like teenagers. Parents who behave like they're in the same grade as their children.  
**It's time to GROW UP!**

• **When you are immature you want the spectacular because you don't want to pay the price for the necessary.**

• **Entry level faith/Christianity is getting out of the pile.**

• **Can't expect to raise children who are different from world if you're not.**

• *Did God really say can't watch that MA show on Netflix?*

• *That music with bad language is bad? Gossip is a sin?*

• *Not to post half naked photos on Instagram?*

• **I'm not that bad—I'm a lot better than a lot of people.**

• **A lot of people are not the standard! It's you and the Smith. His standard is now your standard.**

• **Anvil/WORD- Anvil will move you but you will never move the anvil.**

**God uses Spiritual Authority to forge us.**

• If we're not careful will confuse the blacksmith with the enemy.

• **19 Now there was no blacksmith to be found throughout all the land of Israel, for the Philistines said, "Lest the Hebrews make themselves swords or spears." 20 But every one of the Israelites went down to the Philistines to sharpen...1 Samuel 13:19-20**

**All the enemy had to do to keep them defeated was take the blacksmiths.**

• *Then the enemy said come to me!*

• **If you get rid of God's hammers because you don't like the truth then you'll run to the enemy for it.**

**God uses Trials to Forge faith into us.**

• It is impossible to tell by looking at a person how much faith they have. Compare your faith to a bucket of water; you only discover how much is inside when somebody bumps it.

• **6 In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, 7 so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. 1 Peter 1:6-7**

• **We are asking God to fix things He's not going to fix. Change/move things... Embrace the ANVIL!**

- **His strength is made perfect in weakness...**
- **HE knows the way that I take and when HE has tried me I shall come forth as GOLD!!!**

If you are in the middle of a difficult time—say—Faith is being tested

- **Pursue Comfort**- Avoid Opposition, Faith Weakens, Life's Empty,
- **Live Boldly**- Face Opposition, Faith Strengthens, Closer to Christ

• No matter what I've been through I've always known—God you've got me.

• When a tool emerges from a blacksmith's anvil, there is no question as to what it's for.

- **We should exit the blacksmith's shop with no question as to why God made us. We know our purpose.**

• Heavy trials lead to heavy trust.

• The same God that pulled me out of the pile, that forged me on the anvil, is the same God that will use me to accomplish victory.

Strengthen the blade by Submerging it in oil or water.

*Jehova Jireh*