



Philadelphia Church

HANDLING HARD TIMES

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1 Peter 5: 10

¹⁰ And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast.

John 16: 33

33 “I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”

Quote

Suffering will either make
me bitter or better.

John 15: 16

¹⁶ You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you.



Two things to keep hope
alive during suffering:

1. There is purpose in it
2. It will only last for a while

1 Peter 5: 6 - 11

⁶ Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. ⁷ Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. ⁸ Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

Cont.

¹⁰ And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. ¹¹ To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

Luke 22: 31 - 32

³¹ “Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift all of you as wheat. ³² But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers.”

Two ways we doubt God:

1. Where is God in this?
2. Why doesn't God do something?

To grow through suffering
we need to:

1. Humble ourselves
2. Resist the devil
3. Trust the Lord
4. Stand firm

1 Peter 5:5-6

⁵In the same way, you who are younger, submit yourselves to your elders. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, “God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.”⁶ Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.

Definition



Submit- to accept or yield to
a superior force or to The
Authority or will of another
person.

How do we humble ourselves?

1. Remember He is in control
2. Remember He cares for me





Truth



We need to control ourselves especially when we have no control over our circumstances.

James 4: 7

⁷ Submit yourselves, then,
to God. Resist the
devil, and he will flee from
you.

Truth



Strength is not acquired in
the absence of suffering.

Strength comes from
doing the right things
when we suffer.

Zechariah 13: 9

⁹ This third I will put into the fire; I will refine them like silver and test them like gold. They will call on my name and I will answer them; I will say, 'They are my people,' and they will say, 'The LORD is our God.'"

Perfect us:

1. Equip us
2. Repair us (restore)
3. Render us complete

1 Peter 5:10

¹⁰ And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast.