Understanding the Six Phases of Faith

With God all things are possible



"All things are possible with God"

Phase I: God's Dream for your life.

The Greater the Dream, the Greater the Difficulty!

Dealing with Difficulties

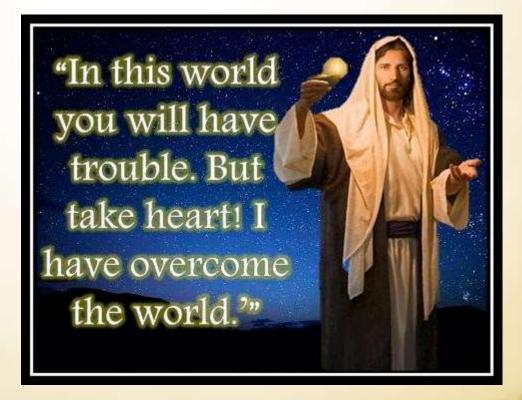
Fourth Stage of Faith

With God all things are possible



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Difficulties Will Come!



John 16:33



"All things are possible with God"

Paul had great difficulty!

"In everything we do, we <u>show</u> that we are God's servants, by enduring troubles, hardships and difficulties with great <u>patience</u>" (2 Cor 6:4).

I Peter 2:20



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THESIS:

THREE KEYS TO REMEMBER WHEN DEALING WITH DIFFICULTIES:

Determine the...

- 1. REASON
- 2. RESULT
- 3. RESPONSE



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Key #1: Determine the Reason.

What Caused This?

Four Sources:

- 1. Myself
- 2. Others
- 3. Satan
- 4. God

How do I know?

- -- Pray (Jas 1)
- -- Worship (Ps _ 73:16)



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Key #1: Determine the Reason.

Three Common Mistakes:

- 1. We Listen to <u>bad advice</u> (Acts 27:11).
- 2. We <u>Follow the crowd</u> (Acts 27:12, Ex 23:2).
- 3. We Rely on circumstances (Acts 27:13).



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Key #2: Determine the Result

What can I learn from this?

"These troubles which are temporary are winning for us a permanent and glorious reward all out of proportion to our pain"

2 Corinthians 4:17



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Key #2: Determine the Result.

What can I learn from this?

Regardless of the source, God has a purpose for every problem!

Rom 5:3-4



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Key #3: Determine my Response

How should I react?

Life is 10% what you make it and 90% how you take it.

It is your choice!



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Key #3: Determine my Response

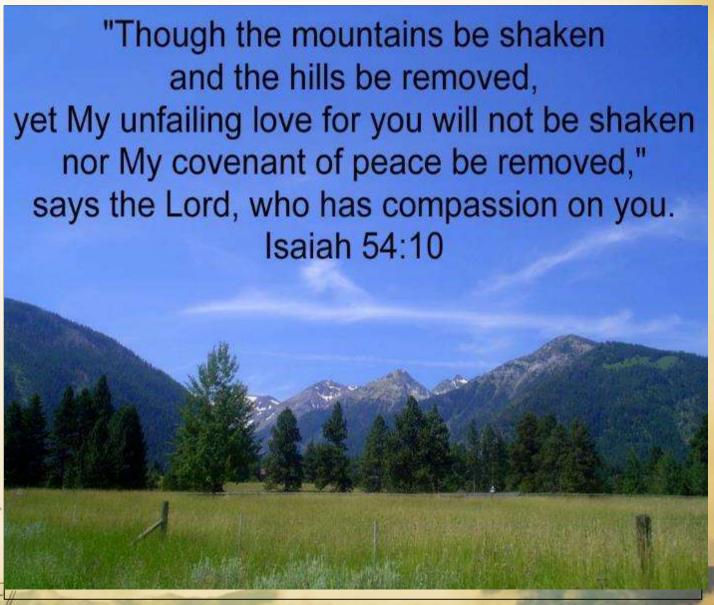
Three Wrong Responses:

Difficulties can cause us to:

- 1. **DRIFT** (Acts 27:15)
- 2. DISCARD (Acts 27:18)
 God says STAY WITH THE SHIP
 (vs.31-32)
- 3. <u>DESPAIR</u> (Acts 27:20)



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Key #3: Determine my Response

What is the right response?

Difficulties should cause us to:

- 1. Confess my part (Prov 28:13).
- 2. Confront the problem (Acts 27: 34-40).

DON'T FEAR THE STORM-FACE IT!

3. Claim a promise (Acts 27:25)





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All 7,000 of them!