



Dancing In The Storm

LESSON 1

PERSEVERING IN THE STORM

Do you ever look at other women and wonder why their life is so good, while yours seems to be filled with trouble and heartache? Or, do you feel inadequate beside your friends who seem to have it all together?

It may look as if your neighbor lives in perpetual sunshine. But the truth is, we are all about to go into a storm, resting momentarily in the eye of the storm, or just coming out of a storm.

PHILIPPIANS 4:13

Like thousands of others, I have chosen Philippians 4:13 as my Life Verse. This verse has gotten me through every hardship life has thrown my way. It has seen me through, pain, need, loneliness, despair and depression. It has been in my heart with every obstacle overcome, every ailment healed, and every blessing unexpected. It is the verse I gave to my children and my grandchildren. It is the verse I give to every hurting woman who comes under my heart. It is THE verse that sums up my faith in Christ because I KNOW He is always with me, loving me, guiding me, supporting me, and lending me His strength because my own is so puny.

In context, "I can do all things" is the ministry that God has sent Paul to do. He can persevere, share the gospel, and be content in

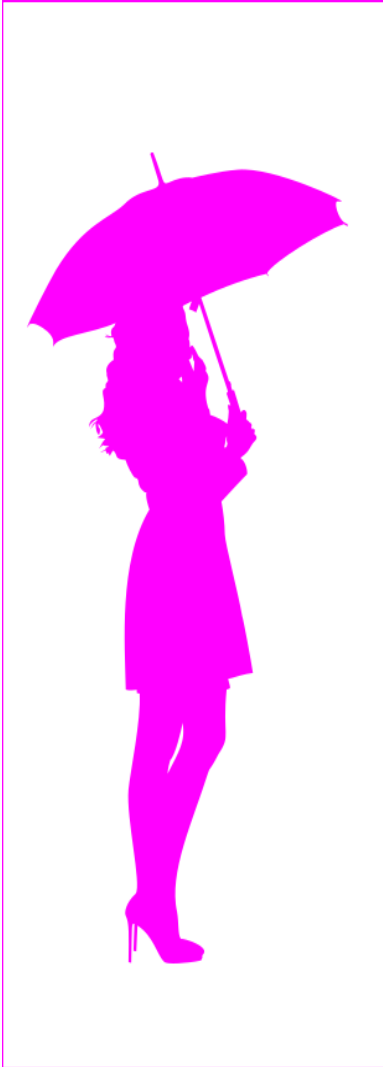


PERSEVERING

DEFINITION:

- Philippians 4:13..... 2
- Isaiah 43:10 3
- Isaiah 41:10 3
- Acts 2..... 3
- 2 Corinthians 12..... 4
- Psalms 30:5..... 4
- Romans 5..... 5
- 1 Corinthians 13..... 5
- James 1..... 6
- 2 Corinthians 4..... 6
- Revelation 2:7 6





PHILIPPIANS 4:13 (CONTINUED)

any situation. Not on his own, but through Christ who strengthens him. Too often Christians interpret “all things” as “anything,” not “all the things Paul has talked about.”

Paul believed that Christ—his Savior, his Friend, his Provider, his Lord—was the essence of what he needed most. The sufficiency of Christ that Paul experienced enabled him to have a strong heart of contentment (joy, peace, and gratitude) in the best and worst of times.

Paul is not saying that God will empower us to do whatever impossible things we can imagine. It is an assurance that we can do whatever *God calls us to do*, no matter how impossible it might seem. Everything that happens to us affects or Christian walk and

our call to spread the Gospel. that might mean getting over the death of a loved one or struggling with the courage to step out.

This is not a biblical exhortation you can stamp on whatever goals you have professionally, personally, or physically. It is an encouragement that God can give you the strength *to be content*, no matter what.

If anything, Paul’s words in Philippians chapter four release us to give our all, knowing that our all is enough to glorify the One who is most definitely enough for us.

Perseverance, Joy, Peace and Gratitude. Philippians 4:13 is God’s promise that He is with us in every storm.

YOUR LIFE VERSE

Many Christians have a life verse. Without realizing it, they may turn to this verse through trials and tribulations. However, life verses are not just for hard times. They are for joyous times as well. For praising God and acknowledging His blessings in your accomplishments, your relationships, and His wonderful Gift of Salvation.

What is your life verse? Write it here:

READ: ISAIAH 43:2

“When thou _____ through the _____, I will be with thee; and through the _____, they shall not _____ thee: when thou _____ through the _____, thou shalt not be _____; neither shall the flame _____ upon thee.” (Isaiah 43:2 KJV)

In your own words, what is the promise of this verse?

Through is one of the most important words in this verse. Explain what it means to you.

READ: ISAIAH 41:10

“Fear thou _____; for I am _____ thee: be not _____; for I am _____ God: I will _____ thee; yea, I will _____ thee; yea, I will _____ thee with the right hand of my _____.” (Isaiah 41:10 KJV)

What a promise! What is the key word in this verse that points us directly to the Salvation of Jesus Christ?

READ: NAHUM 1:3

“THE LORD is _____ to _____, and great in _____, and will not at all _____ the wicked: the LORD hath his way in the _____ and in the _____, and the _____ are the _____ of his feet.” (Nahum 1:3 KJV)

READ: ACTS 2:1-21; WRITE: ACTS 2:2

“And suddenly there came a _____ from _____ as of a _____ mighty _____, and it _____ all the house where they were sitting. (Acts 2:2 KJV)

Who was the wind? _____
What was He doing? _____



WEATHER

Think of the seasons of our weather. Spring, Summer, Fall, and Winter are the Seasons which divide our years. There was a time when these were more clearly defined. However, this is not always true. Here in Georgia, we might have the air conditioner on during the day, in the dead of Winter, and turn the heater on that same night.

For centuries, people have associated the episodes in their lives with the weather. Spring is a time of New Beginnings. Passion burns hot like Summer. Fall is cool and comfortable. Winter is achy, lonely, painful, and cold.

What season are you living in right now?

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READ: 2 CORINTHIANS 12:9-10

Why is God's grace sufficient?

Why does Paul say he that he rejoices in his weaknesses?

Why can we be content in trials and tribulations?



READ: PSALM 23:4

"Yea, though I _____ through the valley of the _____ of _____, I will fear no _____: for thou art _____ me; thy rod and thy staff they _____ me." (Psalm 23:4 KJV)

READ: PSALM 30:5

"For his anger _____ but a moment; in his _____ is _____: weeping may _____ for a night, but _____ cometh in the morning." (Psalm 30:5 KJV)

READ: PSALM 34:17

What does the Lord do when the righteous cry?
_____ and

READ: PSALM 55:22

What are we supposed to give to the Lord? _____
What will He do? _____
Why? _____

READ: PSALM 107:29

What does God do? _____
and _____

READ: PSALM 136:26

"O give thanks unto the God of heaven: for his _____
_____ for ever." (Psalm 136:26 KJV)

READ: ROMANS 5:1-11; WRITE: ROMANS 5: 2-4

“I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.”

READ: PROVERBS 1:27

Turn to God when your fear _____,
When your destruction _____,
When _____.

READ: GALATIANS 6:9

Write this verse in your own words.

READ: 1 CORINTHIANS 13; WRITE 1 CORNINTHANS 13:7

“_____ all things, _____ all things,
_____ all things, _____ all things.”

READ: PROVERBS 1:27

Why is it important that we endure until the end?





READ: JAMES 1; NOTE: JAMES 1:2-5

Why should we be joyous over trials and tribulations?

What if we don't know what to do, how to do it, or why we need to in order to overcome? _____

READ: ROMANS 5:3

Why do we glory in tribulation? _____

READ: 1JOHN 5:5; 1 JOHN 4:4; 1 JOHN 5:4;

We are _____ Why? _____

“We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed;”

READ: 2 CORINTHIAN 4

Verse 5: What are we to preach? (spread the word about) _____

Verse 6: What has God placed in our hearts? _____ Why?

Verse 16: Though our outward man perish, our inward man _____

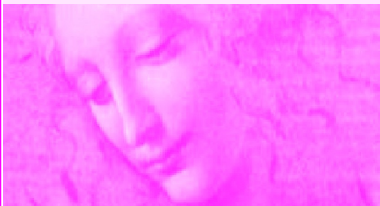
Verse 18: The things which are seen are temporary, but the unseen things are _____

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READ: REVELATION 2:7

“He that hath an _____, let him _____ what the Spirit saith unto the _____; To him that _____ will I give to _____ of the _____ of _____, which is in the midst of the _____ of God.” (Revelation 2:7 KJV)

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