



"If you have raced with men on foot and they have worn you out, how can you compete with horses? If you stumble in safe country, how will you manage in the thickets by the Jordan?"

JEREMIAH 12:5

"We are more than conquerors through Him who loved us."

ROMANS 8:37

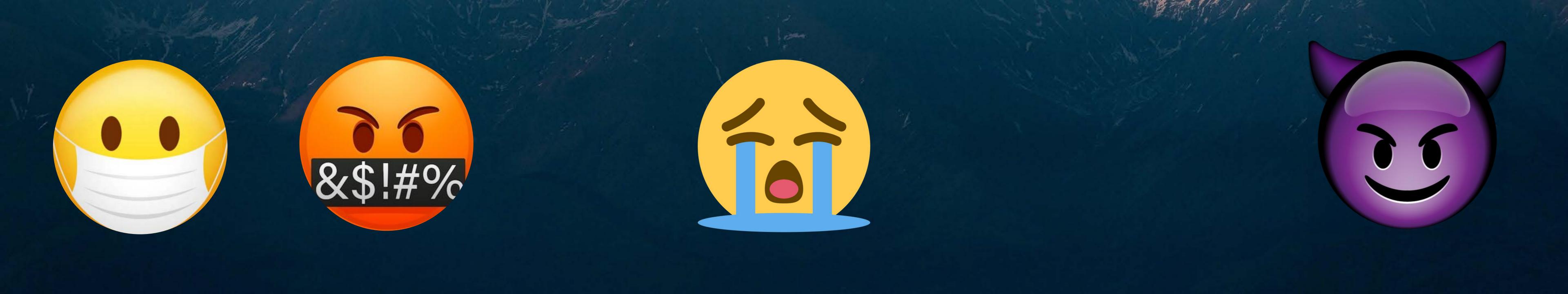
"...how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ!"

**ROMANS 5:17** 













# WHY WE DON'T FEEL LIKE OVERCOMERS

- PAIN: Physical, emotional, mental, sickness ...
- PRESSURE: Stress, anxiety, worries, hardship ...
- PESSIMISM: Hopelessness, malaise, depression ...
- PERSECUTION: Opposition, enemies, hostility ...
- PANIC: Fear, despair, distress, phobias ...
- ... AND IT'S PERPETUAL: Repeatedly falling despite trying



1. The PROMISES of God

# 1. The PROMISES of God

#### GOD HAS PROMISED THAT WE WILL BE OVERCOMERS

"For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world.

And this is the victory that has overcome the world — our faith.

Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?" 1 JOHN 5:4-5

Through Christ Jesus, the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death ...

If God is for us, who can be against us? ROMANS 8:2, 31



# 1. The PROMISES of God

#### BUT ANOTHER THING WE ARE GUARANTEED IS ... TROUBLE

Paul and Barnabas strengthened the disciples and encouraged them to remain true to the faith. "We must go through many hardships (tribulations, troubles) to enter the Kingdom of God," they said. ACTS 14:22

## 1. The PROMISES of God

#### BUT ANOTHER THING WE ARE GUARANTEED IS ... TROUBLE

"In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted." 2 TIMOTHY 3:12

"If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first.

If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own.

As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you ...

If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also." JOHN 15:18-20

## 1. The PROMISES of God

HIS PROMISE IS NOT TO <u>REMOVE</u> OUR TROUBLES, BUT TO <u>HELP</u> US IN THE FACE OF OUR TROUBLES.

"Holy Father, protect them by the power of Your name." JOHN 17:11

"For I am the Lord your God who takes hold of your right hand and says to you: Do not fear; I will help you." ISAIAH 41:13

"Lord, how many are my foes! How many rise up against me!
Many are saying of me, 'God will not deliver him.'

But you, Lord, are a shield around me...
I will not fear though tens of thousands assail me on every side."

PSALM 3:1-6

1. The PROMISES of God

# 2. The PURPOSES of God

# THINK ABOUT <u>WHY</u> YOU ARE GOING THROUGH WHAT YOU ARE GOING THROUGH

For the joy set before Him Jesus endured the Cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider Him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

**HEBREWS 12:2-3** 

1. The PROMISES of God

## 2. The PURPOSES of God

## THINK ABOUT WHY YOU ARE GOING THROUGH WHAT YOU ARE GOING THROUGH

- rinthians 6
- We put no stumbling block in anyone's path, so that our ministry will not be discredited.
- Rather, as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: in great endurance; in troubles, hardships and distresses;
- 5 in beatings, imprisonments and riots; in hard work, sleepless nights and hunger;
- 6 in purity, understanding, patience and kindness; in the Holy Spirit and in sincere love;
- 7 in truthful speech and in the power of God; with weapons of righteousness in the right hand and in the left;
- 8 through glory and dishonour, bad report and good report; genuine, yet regarded as impostors;
- 9 known, yet regarded as unknown; dying, and yet we live on; beaten, and yet not killed;
- 10 sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; poor, yet making many rich; having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

1. The PROMISES of God

## 2. The PURPOSES of God

# THINK ABOUT <u>WHY</u> YOU ARE GOING THROUGH WHAT YOU ARE GOING THROUGH

You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.

**GENESIS 50:20** 

1. The PROMISES of God

## 2. The PURPOSES of God

#### THINK ABOUT WHY YOU ARE GOING THROUGH WHAT YOU ARE GOING THROUGH

#### SUFFERING ISN'T ALWAYS BAD. IT CAN HELP US ...

**ROMANS 5:3-5** 

... To mould our character

**JAMES 1:2-4** 

... To make us fully mature

1 PETER 1:6-7

... To test and purify our faith

PHILIPPIANS 3:10-11

... To help us know Christ better

**ROMANS 8:18** 

... To help us reveal Christ to others

**GENESIS 50:20** 

... Because God is using you to help others

2 CORINTHIANS 1:3-4 ... Because it will help us to comfort others

- 1. The PROMISES of God
- 2. The PURPOSES of God

## 3. The PRESENCE of God

#### **GOD IS WITH YOU!**

You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them (evil spirits), because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world. 1 JOHN 4:4

God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear.

- 1. The PROMISES of God
- 2. The PURPOSES of God

## 3. The PRESENCE of God

#### WITH HIS <u>PURPOSE</u> COMES THE <u>PROMISE</u> OF HIS <u>PRESENCE</u>

Then Jesus came to them and said,

"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations,
baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey
everything I have commanded you.

And lo, I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

MATTHEW 28:18-20

- 1. The PROMISES of God
- 2. The PURPOSES of God
- 3. The PRESENCE of God

## 4. The POWER of God

#### THE POWER FOR MIRACLES

You are the God who performs miracles; You display Your power among the peoples.

**PSALM 77:14** 



- 1. The PROMISES of God
- 2. The PURPOSES of God
- 3. The PRESENCE of God

## 4. The POWER of God

#### THE POWER TO ENDURE

#### 2 Corinthians 4

- But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.
- 8 We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair;
- 9 persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed.
- 10 We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body.
- 11 For we who are alive are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that His life may also be revealed in our mortal body.

- 1. The PROMISES of God
- 2. The PURPOSES of God
- 3. The PRESENCE of God

### 4. The POWER of God

#### THE POWER TO OVERCOME OUR FALLEN NATURE

His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life ...

He has given us His very great and precious promises,
so that through them you may participate in the divine nature,
having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.

2 PETER 1:3-4

- 1. The PROMISES of God
- 2. The PURPOSES of God
- 3. The PRESENCE of God

## 4. The POWER of God

#### THE POWER TO OVERCOME FEAR

For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love and self-control.

2 TIMOTHY 1:7



- 1. The PROMISES of God
- 2. The PURPOSES of God
- 3. The PRESENCE of God

### 4. The POWER of God

#### NEHEMIAH 4

- When Sanballat, Tobiah, the Arabs, the Ammonites and the people of Ashdod heard that the repairs to Jerusalem's walls had gone ahead and that the gaps were being closed, they were very angry ... They all plotted together to come and fight against Jerusalem and stir up trouble against it.
- 10 Meanwhile, the people in Judah said, "The strength of the labourers is giving out, and there is so much rubble that we cannot rebuild the wall."
- 11 Also our enemies said, "Before they know it or see us, we will be right there among them and will kill them and put an end to the work."
- 12 Then the Jews who lived near them came and told us ten times over, "Wherever you turn, they will attack us."

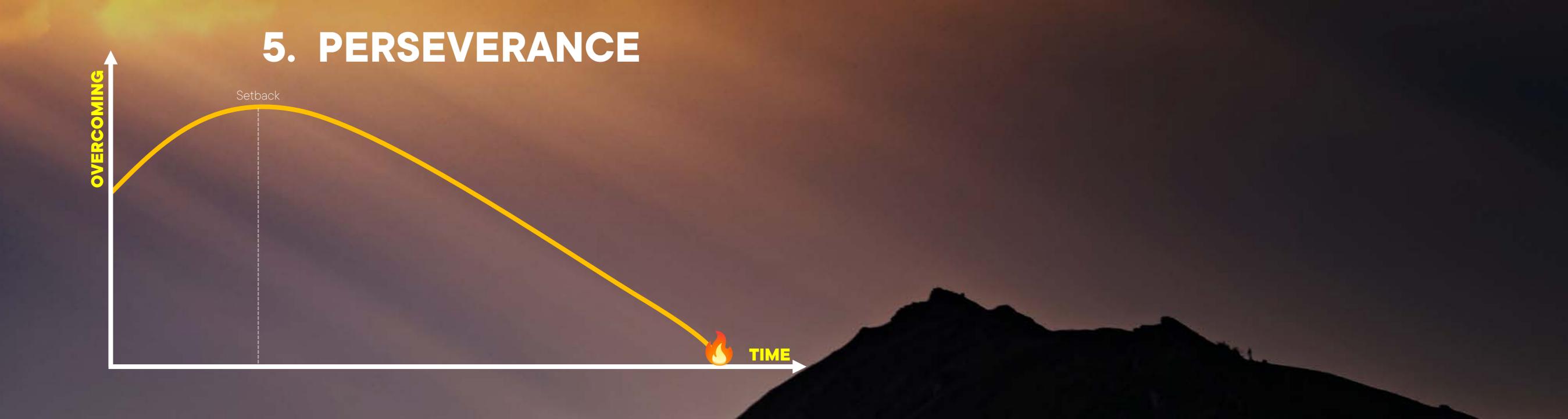
- 1. The PROMISES of God
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### 4. The POWER of God

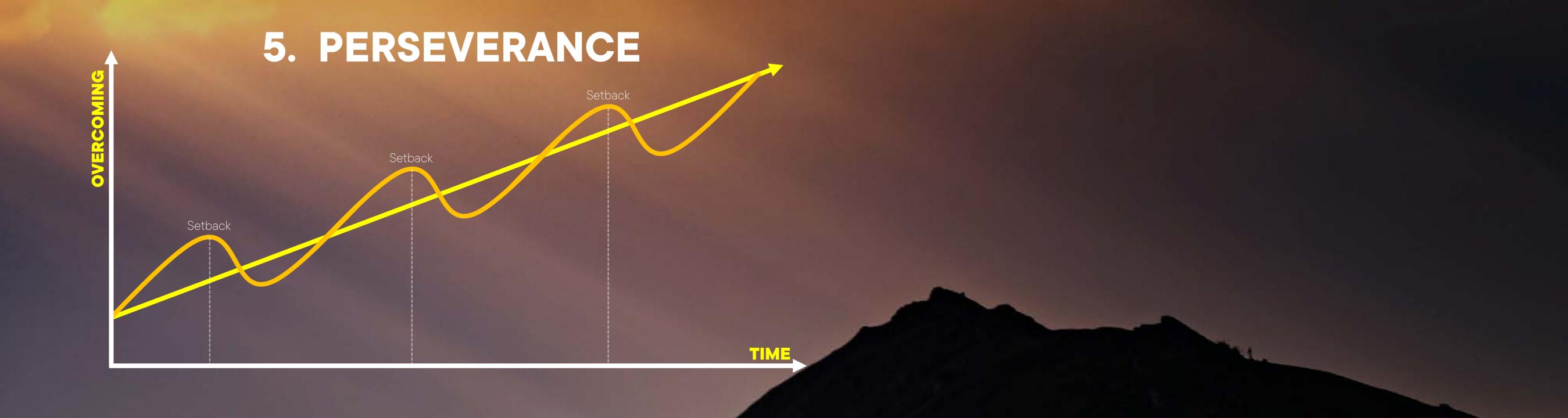
#### NEHEMIAH 4

- 9 But we prayed to our God and posted a guard day and night to meet this threat.
- 13 Therefore I stationed some of the people behind the lowest points of the wall at the exposed places, posting them by families, with their swords, spears and bows.
- 14 After I looked things over, I stood up and said to the nobles, the officials and the rest of the people, "Don't be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome, and fight for your families, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your homes."
- 15 When our enemies heard that we were aware of their plot and that God had frustrated it, we all returned to the wall, each to our own work.

- 1. The PROMISES of God
- 2. The PURPOSES of God
- 3. The PRESENCE of God
- 4. The POWER of God



- 1. The PROMISES of God
- 2. The PURPOSES of God
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- 4. The POWER of God



- 1. The PROMISES of God
- 2. The PURPOSES of God
- 3. The PRESENCE of God
- 4. The POWER of God

### 5. PERSEVERANCE

Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.

Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

**JAMES 1:2-4** 



- 1. The PROMISES of God
- 2. The PURPOSES of God
- 3. The PRESENCE of God
- 4. The POWER of God

### 5. PERSEVERANCE

Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces perseverance (endurance, patience), and perseverance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

**ROMANS 5:3-5** 

- 1. The PROMISES of God
- 2. The PURPOSES of God
- 3. The PRESENCE of God
- 4. The POWER of God

### 5. PERSEVERANCE

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. HEBREWS 12:1-2

And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. GALATIANS 6:9

- 1. The PROMISES of God
- 2. The PURPOSES of God
- 3. The PRESENCE of God
- 4. The POWER of God

## 5. PERSEVERANCE





Every BBTCian has been given 8 hongbao and 1 bag for oranges.

Please make sure AT LEAST ONE is reserved for a pre-believing neighbour!

- 1. The PROMISES of God
- 2. The PURPOSES of God
- 3. The PRESENCE of God
- 4. The POWER of God

### 5. PERSEVERANCE

#### salt&light

2025: The year of the uncomfortable church



Pastor Edric Sng // December 31, 2024, 11:09 am

Imagine what would happen if we all chose to feel uncomfortable about the fact that at least 80% of Singapore remains unsaved. Imagine if we all cultivated a divine discontent about the Gospel not yet reaching every corner of the Earth. Imagine if we turned that dissatisfaction into action.

saltandlig.ht/uncomfortablechurch



- 1. The PROMISES of God
- 2. The PURPOSES of God
- 3. The PRESENCE of God
- 4. The POWER of God
- 5. PERSEVERANCE

## 6. The PRIZE from God

#### 2 Timothy 4

- 5 But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfil your ministry.
- 6 For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time for my departure is near.
- 7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.
- 8 Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

- 1. The PROMISES of God
- 2. The PURPOSES of God
- 3. The PRESENCE of God
- 4. The POWER of God
- 5. PERSEVERANCE

### 6. The PRIZE from God

Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. JAMES 1:12

Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have tribulation. Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life. REVELATION 2:10

- 1. The PROMISES of God
- 2. The PURPOSES of God
- 3. The PRESENCE of God
- 4. The POWER of God
- 5. PERSEVERANCE

## 6. The PRIZE from God

#### "TO THE ONE WHO IS VICTORIOUS ..."

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... I will give the right to eat from the tree of life
REV 2:7 EPHESUS
                      ... I will give you life as your victor's crown
REV 2:11 SMYRNA
                      ... I will give hidden manna + a white stone with a new name
REV 2:17 PERGAMUI
                      ... I will give authority over the nations + the morning star
REV 2:26 THYATIRA
                      ... I will never blot out their name from the book of life
REV 3:5 SARDIS
REV 3:12 PHILADELPHIA ... I will write on them the name of my God,
                        the name of the city of my God, and my new name
                      ... I will give the right to sit with me on my throne
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- 1. The PROMISES of God
- 2. The PURPOSES of God
- 3. The PRESENCE of God
- 4. The POWER of God
- 5. PERSEVERANCE

## 6. The PRIZE from God

Sometimes the victory is granted in this (physical) lifetime. Healing, help, hope. When it is, we rejoice.

Sometimes it isn't. We don't always know why.

But even when it isn't, we learn to rejoice.

We don't celebrate our suffering. But we celebrate the knowledge that the eternal prize we receive for standing firm in the faith far outweighs any blessing we may receive on earth.

- 1. The PROMISES of God
- 2. The PURPOSES of God
- 3. The PRESENCE of God
- 4. The POWER of God
- 5. PERSEVERANCE
- 6. The PRIZE from God

## 7. PERSPECTIVE

#### 2 CORINTHIANS 4

- 16 Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day.
- 17 For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.
- 18 So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

- 1. The PROMISES of God
- 2. The PURPOSES of God
- 3. The PRESENCE of God
- 4. The POWER of God
- 5. PERSEVERANCE
- 6. The PRIZE from God

## 7. PERSPECTIVE

#### Whatever you're going through,

- Hold on to the **PROMISES** and **PURPOSES** of God
- 2. Turn to the PRESENCE and POWER of God
  - And PERSEVERE to receive the PRIZE from God

#### 2 CORINTHIANS 4

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