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FLOURISH IN YOUR FAITH

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2 Thessalonians 1:3-4, 11-12 "Dear brothers and sisters, we can't help but thank God for you, because your faith is flourishing and your love for one another is growing. We proudly tell God's other churches about your endurance and faithfulness in all the persecutions and hardships you are suffering. So we keep on praying for you, asking our God to enable you to live a life worthy of His call. May He give you the power to accomplish all the good things your faith prompts you to do. Then the name of our Lord Jesus will be honored because of the way you live, and you will be honored along with Him."

THREE STEPS TO FLOURISH IN YOUR FAITH

1. Grow DEEP FAITH in GOD.

2 Thessalonians 2:1 "We are writing to you who belong to God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."

Faith always has its foundation in God.

The deeper you grow in God, the deeper your faith will grow.

Colossians 2:7 "Let your roots grow down into Him, and let your lives be built on Him. Then

your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness."

Biblical faith is not faith in faith. Biblical faith is faith in God.

Colossians 1:15-16 "Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation, for through Him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth. He made the things we can see and the things we can't see - such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world. Everything was created through Him and for Him."

Psalm 121:1-2 "Where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth."

Psalm 20:6-7 "Now this I know: The Lord gives victory to His anointed. He answers him from His heavenly sanctuary with the victorious power of His right hand. Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God."

You're never on your own when God is on the throne.

2. Grow STRONG FAITH through ADVERSITY.

2 Thessalonians 1:3-4 "Your faith is flourishing. We proudly tell God's other churches about your endurance and faithfulness in all the persecutions and hardships you are suffering."

1 Peter 4:12 "Dear friends, don't be surprised at the fiery trials you are going through, as if something strange were happening to you. Instead, be very glad - for these trials make you partners with Christ in His suffering, so that you will have the wonderful joy of seeing His

glory when it is revealed to all the world."

Tested Faith leads to Trusted Faith.

Psalm 23:3-4 "He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake. Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death."

1 Peter 1:6-8 "So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you must endure many trials for a little while. These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies

gold - though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world."

Harness the power of your problem to connect you to the power of God.

Let your desperation drive you to a divine connection.

Psalm 119:67 "Before I went through suffering, I went down the wrong path. But now I obey Your word." James 1:2-4 "Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing."

3. Grow BIG FAITH for BIG IMPACT.

2 Thessalonians 1:11-12 "So we keep on praying for you, asking our God to enable you to live a life worthy of His call. May He give you the power to accomplish all the good things your faith prompts you to do. Then the name of our Lord Jesus will be honored because of the way you live, and you will be honored along with Him."

James 2:17, 20 "Faith that doesn't show itself by good works is no faith at all - it is dead and useless. Faith that does not result in good deeds is not real faith."

2 Corinthians 5:7 "We walk by faith, not by sight."

Do what you can today, so that you can do tomorrow what you can't do today.

Memory Verse: Colossians 2:7

"Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness."