



PURSUING GOD IN THE TIME OF PRESSURE

Numbers 14:24

But my servant Caleb, because he had another spirit with him, and hath followed me fully, him will I bring into the land where-into he went; and his seed shall possess it.

Pursue—Is to follow or chase

Follow—To come or go after, to comply with; obey

Chase—To follow rapidly in order to catch.

Pursue is something we all have done at one time or another. We pursue a higher education, a career, a better quality of life, losing weight, gaining weight, looking younger as well as pursue a spouse. All these things we will pursue until we reach our goal. We don't care how long it may take or how difficult the task may be. We will pursue until we have accomplished what we were after.

The same tenacity we use to pursue natural things, we must also use to pursue the things of God. If we pursue God first, all the other things we're seeking will be given to us. All the other tasks will be much easier.

Many times, as long as things are going well, we pray, fast and read the word of God, but when pressure and tribulation come, we begin to back-up in prayer, our bibles collect dust, and we stop fasting. It's always good to pray, but when you're under attack, when trials and tribulation are coming

from different sides, that's when you need to pursue God. Strength comes with the struggle. When you're under pressure that's when you need to be building your faith through praying in the Holy Spirit.

Jude V.20

But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost.

In our Christian walk there will be times when the enemy comes in like a flood, but the Bible has promised us when the enemy comes in like a flood the Holy Spirit will lift up a standard for us.

Isaiah 59:19

So shall they fear the name of the Lord from the west, and his glory from the rising of the sun. When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard (banner) against him.

We don't have to fear what the enemy will try to do, as long as we're in the Lord, and the Lord is in us, you will defeat the plan and schemes of Satan, because the Lord is on our side.

There are different sides of God, and we will not experience the different sides if we don't go through trials and tribulations in order for Him to show Himself strong on our behalf. How can we say He's a mind regulator, if our minds have never been confused? How can we say, He's a heart fixer, if our hearts have never been broken?

How can we say He's a healer, if we have never been sick? How can we say He is a deliverer, if we have never needed to be delivered from our enemies and our foes? How can we say He is the supplier of our need, if we have never had a need? How can we say He works in the impossible, if we have never been in a impossible situation? God intervenes and works in situations and circumstances we can't handle. If we can handle it, God expects us to handle it, and if we can't handle it, God expects us to give it to Him so that He can handle it!

Too many times we're expecting God to do something and He's has given us the authority and the knowledge to handle what's going on in our lives. Prayer open doors for God to give us the knowledge and wisdom to handle different situations and circumstances in our lives.

Every time a trial or tribulation come, it is not the time for us to back up and run. We run when we stop praying, we run when we stop fasting and reading the word of God. We run when we stop trying to be a blessing to others when we're in a trial or test. Man should always pray, but when we're in a test or trial that is when we should be bombarding heaven, not just for ourselves, but for others that may be going through the same tests and trials we're going through. When we get our minds off ourselves and begin to think about others, we're opening a door for God to come in and

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deliver us. Our attention is on God and not our trial or tribulation.

There are times no matter what we do, we're still in the test or trial, and we're still hurting. That is the time God is molding and shaping us to continue to pursue Him while we're in the desert and in the storms of life. We can't go to higher heights and deeper depths if every time a test or trial comes, we back up from what we were doing spiritually.

Pursuing God is when we can still sing a song of praise, when we smell the smoke from the furnace of trials and tribulations in our lives. We can give a testimony of what God has done and what He is going to do. Pursuing God is when we can still have our devotional time of prayer and reading and feasting on the Word of God, believing what God has said and not what Satan is doing and showing us.

Pursuing God is when we can still encourage others although we may feel the need of someone encouraging us. As we begin to minister to others of the goodness and faithfulness of God, this will encourage them as well as ourselves.

Pursuing God is continually attending church when you may not feel like attending; don't feel like smiling; don't feel like giving a testimony; don't feel like participating in the praise and worship service; don't feel like giving an offering; and don't feel like you're blessed when according to the Bible, you are a blessed people. Even when you're in the valley of dry bones, when it seems as though you are the tail, but you are the head. When you feel as though you're disliked by everyone, but yet you are loved by God!

Pursuing God is having a meek and quiet spirit when your adversaries are boasting. Pursuing God is when your adversaries are coming against you, but you don't try to avenge them because we know God has said "Vengeance is Mine".

Romans 12:19

Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is Mine; I will Repay, saith the Lord.

Pursuing God is feeding people spiritually and naturally when you know they have talked about you, lied on you and tried to discredit your reputation.

Pursuing God is visiting those in the jails and prison. Visiting those in the hospitals and nursing homes. Establishing a Bible Study with the elderly that cannot attend church. Pen-paling with those that are incarcerated. Calling the elderly and the widower checking on them, letting them know that someone is thinking about them.

Pursuing God is helping those that are in need and not expecting them to give it back, but expecting your reward to come from God.

Pursuing God is trying to help someone else excel in the Spirit without condemning them, but gently leading them to seek God and to seek God's righteousness. Pursuing God is although you like secular music, is it edifying your spiritual growth? If not, you're willing to listen to music and conversations that edifies your spirit and will assist you in spiritual growth. Whatever we're listening to and looking at, if it is not edifying our spiritual growth, but is causing us to be stagnated spiritually, we need to get rid of it!

Pursuing God is telling the truth when you could tell a lie. Pursuing God is confessing your sin to those that will pray with you and not reject you. Pursuing God is telling those that you hurt, you're sorry. Pursuing God is rejoicing with those that are rejoicing and crying with those that are crying.

Pursuing God is not letting your ears be a garbage dump where people can come and dump gossip and backbiting. Pursuing God is rejoicing with those that are rejoicing and crying with those that are crying.

Pursuing God is, although I may be hurting, I may be angry, I will not take my emotions out on the one that hasn't did anything to me.

Pursuing God is when the storms of life, your enemies and your foes come against you from every angle. Your prayer life will increase, your fasting will increase, your praise will go to another level, and your giving of your time and your funds will increase. The more Satan comes against you, the more you will seek the Lord and those things that pleases Him. In your pursuing, it causes God to come in and do something for you, but when you stop doing the things God has instructed you to do because Satan is attacking you, it will cause a decrease in your spiritual growth.

If we really know God the way we say we do, pressure causes us to seek the face of God, because we know that's where our help comes from.

Don't ever think when you are in a test, that God is not there. Every time a door of adversity comes in your life, God is there to open a door of escape as we pursue the things of God.

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God will never let you go through a door of adversity without giving you the Grace to sustain you while in you're in the test. Every door that is open there is another door that can carry and bring you through the door of adversity, it's called prayer and praise!

God allows trials and tribulations to come not to hurt or harm us, but to equip us to be the warriors we should be. We sing the song, I am a soldier in the army of the Lord, well if we are soldiers, we must put on the whole armor of God and fight like soldiers.

Ephesians 6:13-18

Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins (girded) girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness. And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all taking the shield of faith, where with ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints.

We're in a spiritual war, one that we cannot see with the naked eye, but we can see it with our spiritual eyes. We must know that no weapon formed against us shall prosper, and every tongue that comes against us, **make it be a lie.**

We must know that Greater is He that lives in us, than he that lives in world.

Greater is He that lives in us than our zero bank account. Greater is He that lives within us than the sickness in our body. Greater is He that lives in us than the man or woman that has taken our spouse. Greater is He that lives in us than our wayward children. Greater is He that lives in us than unemployment. Greater is He that lives in us than addiction. Greater is He that lives in us than fear. Greater is He that lives in us than rejection. Greater is He that lives in us than anything Satan will try to come against us with.

We must pursue God by praying, fasting, and reading God's Word no matter what is going on around us. The only way we can get to know our God is through prayer, praise, fasting and reading the Bible. Know that you have the Greater one living in you, if you have been born-again of His Spirit.

We want to see the power in God in operation, and for it to be in operation in the body of Christ, we must do whatever it takes to get in the presence of God and not just when we want a present, but His Presence!

The same anointing that was on the Apostle is for the body of Christ today. There wasn't a different Holy Spirit operating in them, but in order to receive the anointing that destroys burdens and yokes, and set the captive free, we must pursue God!

Acts 1:8

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

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Next Issue: Is It In the Name or the Anointing?

