

Overcoming Through the Storms of Life

Discussion Questions:

What are some things that you learned or that stuck out to you from this study?

(Introduction) – Faithfulness (an unfailing commitment to God, our promises, and our obligations to others) is what ultimately carries us through the storms of life

- Some storms of life come in the form of ridicule. Have you ever been ridiculed? Why? How did you respond/cope? How did faithfulness play a part in your response?
- Some storms of life come in the form of failure. Have you ever lived through an extended period of failure in your life? Describe. How did faithfulness play a part in your ability to cope/persevere?
- Some storms of life come in the form of adversity. Describe a period of high adversity in your life. How did you respond/cope? How did faithfulness play a part in your response?

(Point 1) – It can be argued that our whole life in this world is one big storm. There may be short reprieves, but in general we move from one difficulty to the next throughout this life.

- Do you agree with this assessment? Has this been your experience personally? Yes or No? Why?
- Are you primarily motivated by a desire to escape the storms of this life via financial security, retirement, etc? If yes, what does this tell you about your ability to be faithful to your commitments?
- Faithfulness in general is a commitment to your word and to your obligations no matter what. With this in mind, are there unique situations/scenarios where it may be better to pull back from certain commitments? If yes what are they?

(Point 2) – God’s approval is not based upon our productivity in this world, it’s based upon our faithfulness to “man our post.”

- Have you ever been tempted to leave a commitment because it was unproductive/unprofitable? Describe.
- Have you ever stayed in a commitment long after it was productive according to the value systems of this world? Describe. What was the long term result of this decision? Do you consider it a good choice or a mistake?

(Point 3) – Ultimately faithfulness is what drives the innovation that results in progress for God’s Kingdom. When faithful people are faced with adversity, it is their sense of commitment that motivates the search for creative solutions to keep pressing on.

- The Covid-19 pandemic has forced churches to find creative ways to gather in the face of quarantines and restrictions. Do you consider these to be creative innovations that further the spread of the gospel or compromise with the world? Why?
- One of the main innovations that has come out of the pandemic has been digital attendance at church events via live streaming and zoom. Do you believe that there is a place for these innovations to continue after the pandemic has ended? Or do you believe that they should be eliminated? Why?