

September 4, 2016

## *Surviving the Summer*

*A series on surviving...and even thriving!*

*"I know how to survive..." Philippians 4:12a Voice*

### **"Don't Just Survive But Thrive!"**

*"No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us." Romans 8:37 NLT*

#### A. How will you view the challenges that are before you?

1. Your vantage point makes all the difference. What are you looking for?
2. Because your vantage point gives you perspective, your determination will create your outcome! How will you face those challenges?
3. Because your determination is fueled by His power, you are equipped for whatever you face! How will you draw on His power to face those challenges?

*"And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them." Romans 8:28 NLT*

#### B. When challenges come to my life, how should I respond? Ask these questions...

*"What shall we say about such wonderful things as these?" Romans 8:31a NLT*

1. What shall I say? Vs 8:30a
2. Who can be against me? Vs 8:30b
3. Won't Jesus give me everything I need? Vs 8:32
4. Who can accuse me? Vs 8:33
5. Who can condemn me? Vs 8:34
6. Can anything separate me from God's love? Vs 8:35a
7. Does God still have me no matter what I face? Vs 8:35b

#### C. What do I need to remember?

*"For God knew his people in advance, and he chose them to become like his Son, so that his Son would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. And having chosen them, he called them to come to him. And having called them, he gave them right standing with himself. And having given them right standing, he gave them his glory." Romans 8:29-30 NLT*

1. I am not alone!  
*"he gave them right standing with himself"*
2. I am called!  
*"he called them"*
3. I am chosen!  
*"he chose them"*
4. I am equipped!  
*"he gave them his glory"*

#### D. When trials come, what shall I say?

1. This is not an accident. God has a plan!  
*"And we know that God causes everything to work together..." Romans 8:28a NLT*
2. This will be used for my good.  
*"to work together for good..." Romans 8:28 NLT*
3. This did not catch God off-guard. God prepared me for this!  
*"For God knew his people in advance..." Romans 8:29 NLT*
4. This will bring glory to God. God is with me!  
*"he gave them his glory"*
5. This will help me look more like Jesus. God will use this!  
*"he chose them to become like His Son..."*

#### E. When challenges come to my life, how should I respond? Ask these questions...

*"What shall we say about such wonderful things as these?" Romans 8:31a NLT*

1. What shall I say? Vs 8:30a  
God you are with me!
2. Who can be against me? Vs 8:30b  
No one is greater than God!
3. Won't Jesus give me everything I need? Vs 8:32  
You have given me all I need!
4. Who can accuse me? Vs 8:33  
No one as God is my defender!
5. Who can condemn me? Vs 8:34  
No one as God stands for me!
6. Can anything separate me from God's love? Vs 8:35a  
Nothing, as His love is greater!
7. Does God still have me no matter what I face? Vs 8:35b  
Yes, overwhelming victory is mine through Christ!

*"God knew what he was doing from the very beginning. He decided from the outset to shape the lives of those who love him along the same lines as the life of his Son... We see the original and intended shape of our lives there in him. After God made that decision of what his children should be like, he followed it up by calling people by name. After he called them by name, he set them on a solid basis with himself. And then, after getting them established, he stayed with them to the end, gloriously completing what he had begun.*

*So, what do you think? With God on our side like this, how can we lose? If God didn't hesitate to put everything on the line for us, embracing our condition and exposing himself to the worst by sending his own Son, is there anything else he wouldn't gladly and freely do for us? And who would dare tangle with God by messing with one of God's chosen? Who would dare even to point a finger? The One who died for us—who was raised to life for us!—is in the presence of God at this very moment sticking up for us. Do you think anyone is going to be able to drive a wedge between us and Christ's love for us? There is no way! Not trouble, not hard times, not hatred, not hunger, not homelessness, not bullying threats, not backstabbing, not even the worst sins listed in Scripture...None of this fazes us because Jesus loves us. I'm absolutely convinced that nothing—nothing living or dead, angelic or demonic, today or tomorrow, high or low, thinkable or unthinkable—absolutely nothing can get between us and God's love because of the way that Jesus our Master has embraced us." Romans 8:29-39 The Message*

Can I Survive An Imperfect Family?

Can I Survive Suffering?

Can I Survive Disappointment?

Can I Survive Loneliness?

Can I Survive Your Doubts?

Can I Survive Unhealthy Relationships?

Can I Survive Hurts from Others?

Can I Survive Your Past Failures?

Can I Survive Conflict?

***Yes!! We were made to Thrive!***

Next series:

***"The Facts of Life"***

*"By his divine power, God has given us everything we need for living a godly life. We have received all of this by coming to know him, the one who called us to himself..." 2 Peter 1:3*