

# Triumph During Trials

*1 Thessalonians 3:1-8*

## Factors that enable us to triumph over trials

### 1. A personal \_\_\_\_\_ from someone who cares.

*So when we could stand it no longer, we thought it best to be left by ourselves in Athens. We sent Timothy, who is our brother and God's fellow worker in spreading the gospel of Christ, to strengthen and encourage you in your faith, 1 Thessalonians 3:1-2*

#### **Paraclete (Greek), παρά κλητός**

παρά (para), meaning "beside" or "next to," and κλητός (kletos), "one who is called or is invited beside"

- Advocate or defender
- The word used for, the \_\_\_\_\_

*Again, I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them." Matthew 18:19-20*

*Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work: If one falls down, his friend can help him up. Ecclesiastes 4:9-10*

*But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up! Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken. Ecclesiastes 4:9-10, 12*

### 2. Accurate information of what \_\_\_\_\_ has in store for us.

*Factors that enable us to triumph over trials.*

*so that no one would be unsettled by these trials. You know quite well that we were destined for them. 1 Thessalonians 3:3*

*In fact, when we were with you, we kept telling you that we would be persecuted. And it turned out that way, as you well know. 1 Thessalonians 3:4*

*For this reason, when I could stand it no longer, I sent to find out about your faith. I was afraid that in some way the tempter might have tempted you and our efforts might have been useless. **1 Thessalonians 3:5***

*Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. **1 Peter 5:8***

*Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings. **1 Peter 5:9***

*Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. **Matthew 13:5-6***

*“The one who received the seed that fell on rocky places is the man who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. **Matthew 13:20***

*But since he has no root, he lasts only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, he quickly falls away. **Matthew 13:21***

*Jesus replied, “Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head.” **Matthew 8:20***

***Being a Christian does not \_\_\_\_\_ you from trials.***

*“He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.” **Matthew 5:45***

*be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you. **1 Peter 4:12***

*But rejoice that you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed. **1 Peter 4:13***

*In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”  
**John 16:33***

**3. A positive response from the one who was \_\_\_\_\_  
by them. *Factors that enable us to triumph over trials.***

*But Timothy has just now come to us from you and has brought good news about your faith and love. He has told us that you always have pleasant memories of us and that you long to see us, just as we also long to see you. 1 Thessalonians 3:6*

*Therefore, brothers, in all our distress and persecution we were encouraged about you because of your faith. For now we really live, since you are standing firm in the Lord. 1 Thessalonians 3:7-8*

## **Four responses when faced with a trial**

1. Irrationally, \_\_\_\_\_ the problem
2. Just \_\_\_\_\_ or run away
3. Get \_\_\_\_\_, become bitter and resentful
4. Creatively make it into an advantage

*Though he slay me, yet will I hope in him; Job 13:15*

*And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. Romans 8:28*

*Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life. Revelation 2:10*

*But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. 1 Corinthians 1:27*

*But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. 2 Corinthians 12:9*

*That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong. 2 Corinthians 12:10*

*Key: contact, Holy Spirit, life, exempt, inspired, exaggerate, quit, angry*