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## Daily Devotional - Our Faithful Father

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JULY 19TH 2016 BY DEE LOFLIN

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### 2 Timothy 2:11-13

All of us experience times when our circumstances seem unbearable, prayers appear to go unanswered, and the Lord feels distant. When that happens, we may wonder if He is the same as we once believed Him to be. During such times of helplessness, faith falters for some people yet grows stronger for others. What causes these opposite responses to suffering?

The key is simply one's understanding of and trust in God's faithfulness. This term means that the Lord never changes—He always does what is right, remains true to His promises, and is 100 percent reliable. In other words, we can trust our almighty God, regardless of our situation or attitude.

Our understanding of God relates to this concept. Do we trust Him enough to obey, even when obedience seems foolish? Are we so confident He hears and answers prayer that we consistently bring requests before His throne, even when we don't see an immediate response? Are we daily sacrificing our selfish desires and patterns of living because we believe His promise of eternity, joy, and peace? An answer of "no" may indicate a deficient understanding of God's character. That's why reading the Bible is so important—through Scripture's countless illustrations of our Father's attributes, we learn who He is and increasingly trust Him.

Thankfully, God's faithfulness does not depend on our circumstances, our feelings, or even our own faithfulness. He is true to His Word and true to Himself. How would your

life look different if you had complete confidence that God was trustworthy and unchanging?

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