



[TOP](#)

## Daily Devotional - Thursday, September 2, 2021 - Joyful Endurance

SEPTEMBER 02ND 2021 BY DEE LOFLIN

Daily Devotional - Thursday, September 2, 2021 - Joyful Endurance

### Hebrews 10:32-39

When you think of endurance, what comes to mind? We usually associate it with persistence through hardship, like the mindset of a marathon runner pushing through the pain to finish the race. Yesterday, we saw that [Hebrews 12:1](#) encourages us to run with this kind of determination. The implication is that we are going to face hardships and suffering in the Christian life.

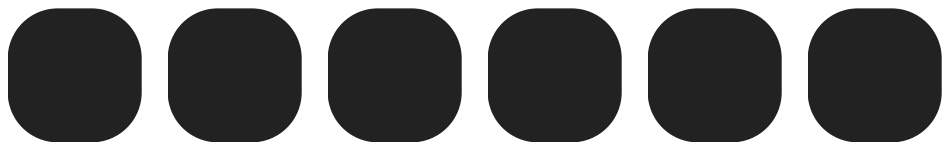
Our goal should be to remain faithful and obedient to Christ through every situation. That is possible because we know our suffering is temporary and we have an inheritance waiting for us in heaven. But in the meantime, we need the right attitude. Are we to grit our teeth, mutter, and complain all the way to heaven? Certainly not!

The writer of Hebrews commended the suffering Christians for their joyful attitude. They didn't enjoy the pain and hardship, but knew that it was all part of God's plan for their good and ultimately they'd have a great reward in heaven.

We, too, can endure hardship with joy in the Lord, who comforts and strengthens us through it and promises to bring us safely to glory.

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[Go to post](#)



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[TOP](#)

## Daily Devotional - Wednesday, September 1, 2021 - Run With Endurance

SEPTEMBER 01ST 2021 BY DEE LOFLIN

Daily Devotional - Wednesday, September 1, 2021 - Run With Endurance

### Hebrews 12:1-3

Athletic contests were popular in New Testament times, so it makes sense that the writer of Hebrews likened the Christian life to a race. Following Christ isn't a short sprint but a marathon with many obstacles, hardships, and unexpected turns.

To encourage us on the course we're running, God has given us a "great cloud of witnesses" (Heb. 12:1). These are saints from the past who faithfully walked with Him through all the trials

and challenges of life ([Heb. 11:4-38](#)). Their examples inspire us to trust the Lord and obey Him no matter how difficult and confusing the hurdles in our path may be.

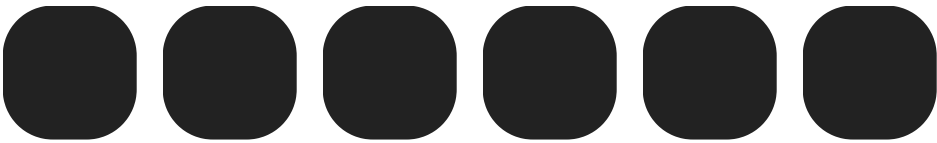
We are also urged us to “rid ourselves of every obstacle and the sin which so easily entangles us” (Heb. 12:1). If we’re going to be sustained throughout the race, we must honestly examine our life for anything that might prevent us from knowing the Lord and following Him. It could be habitual sin, an idol, worldly distractions, or false teaching that we’ve accepted as true.

And, of course, we need to fix our eyes on Jesus, the ultimate example of faithful endurance: He suffered for us on the cross so that we could be with Him forever.

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[Go to post](#)



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[TOP](#)

Daily Devotional - Tuesday, August 31, 2021 - The Blessing of Grace

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## Daily Devotional - Tuesday, August 31, 2021 - The Blessing of Grace

### Ephesians 2:4-10

Why did God save you? Was it because of His love for you, His mercy for your helpless condition, His desire to rescue you from hell, or His providential choice? All of these answers—along with many others—are correct. But do you know what God’s ultimate reason for salvation is?

According to today’s passage, He saved us “so that in the ages to come He might show the boundless riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus” (Eph. 2:7). We are not the shining stars of salvation; God is. He saved us in order to display His grace, which is His undeserved favor toward us.

God didn’t bestow grace on us at the moment of salvation, only to leave us on our own to live the Christian life as best we can. No, He lavishes it on us every day of our life. Through Scripture, His grace instructs us how to live righteously in this present age, and it empowers us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires (Titus 2:11-12).

Once God extends His favor to us through Christ, He will never take it away. We are saved by grace, we live in grace, and we will be recipients of it throughout eternity.

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[Go to post](#)



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[TOP](#)

## Daily Devotional - Monday, August 30, 2021 - Dead Men Walking

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AUGUST 30TH 2021 BY DEE LOFLIN

Daily Devotional - Monday, August 30, 2021 - Dead Men Walking

### **Ephesians 2:1-5**

Zombie movies are science fiction, but did you know that, spiritually speaking, there actually are dead men and women walking around on earth? They look like everyone else, but deep down inside, their spirit is dead. Truth be known, everyone begins life as a spiritual “zombie.”

Human beings are composed of a body by which they interact with the world around them, a soul with which they relate to themselves and others, and a spirit through which they can commune with God. If the spirit is dead in “trespasses and sins,” the person may still lead a successful earthly life, but he won’t be able to connect with God or make himself acceptable in the Lord’s sight. In that way, the dead can do nothing.

It’s easy to imagine how this is true of someone who has given himself fully to debasing sin. But sadly, there are many moral church-going folks who are spiritually dead even though they are externally religious. However, the good news is that no one has to stay dead. Whenever anyone turns from sin and trusts in Jesus Christ for forgiveness and salvation, God in His mercy makes that person alive with Christ.

And the change is permanent. In [John 5:24](#), Jesus Himself says, “Truly, truly, I say to you, the one who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life.”

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[Go to post](#)



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[TOP](#)

## Daily Devotional - Thursday, August 26, 2021 - Growing Faith

AUGUST 26TH 2021 BY DEE LOFLIN

Daily Devotional - Thursday, August 26, 2021 -Growing Faith

Faith isn't a one-time event with the single purpose of ushering us into salvation. Sadly, some Christians never progress beyond this initial level of faith. But God wants our relationship with Him to continually grow. [2 THESSALONIANS 1:1-4](#)

Willingness to trust the Lord affects every area of our life—how we feel, what we do, the way He blesses us. In some ways, it comes down to our focus: When you face difficulties or heartbreak, do you notice the impossibility of the circumstances, or do you see the greatness of our Father? Another way to ask the question is, Whose voice are you listening to?

Our focus also affects our emotions. Those who choose to believe God experience peace and joy. But when we doubt, it's easier for anxiety and fear to creep in. Then, instead of resting in Christ, we fuss and fume, trying to anticipate all possible outcomes and solve problems in our own strength.

We need to realize that our faith is of utmost importance to God, and He takes joy in seeing it grow. He can move heaven and earth to act on our behalf and answer our prayers—and He delights in our choosing to believe that. By trusting Him, we will discover new excitement and adventure in life. We'll also see that our Father is always faithful.

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