

Key memory passage

Proverbs 2:1-6 (NKJV)

- 1 My son, if you receive my words, And treasure my commands within you.
- 2 So that you incline your ear to wisdom, And apply your heart to understanding;
- 3 Yes, if you cry out for discernment, And lift up your voice for understanding;
- 4 If you seek her as silver, And search for her as for hidden treasures;
- 5 Then you will understand the fear of the Lord, And find the knowledge of God.
- 6 For the Lord gives wisdom; From His mouth come knowledge and understanding.

A faithful Christian is a knowledgeable Christian.

James

This challenge to the believer

Keep pressing on to spiritual maturity

Responding to Adversity

1. The purpose of learning God's word is not to find out where somebody else is wrong, (though it might do that) but it's intended to discover for ourselves where we come short.
So that we can see ourselves as we truly are.
So that we can be transformed.
Only when we see ourselves as we truly are will we then begin to trust God's principles to transform the way we think and act.

Adversity:

a. James 1:1-3 (NKJV)

1 James, a bondservant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, To the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad: Greetings.

To the Jewish Christian believer

13 ἡμεῖς (hēmeis) vb. 1st pl. pres. part. middle, imperative, second person, plural

2 My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials.

This is not a command to an immature believer. It is not something a believer who does not have practiced knowledge is going to be able to do!

381 ἡγεμονία (hēgeōmonia) vb. 1st pr 2033—1 LN 31.1
to act as a ruler, consider, think, regard (Ac 26:2, Php 2:9)

The mental activity of the mentality of the soul.

Which means in times of adversity what's important is thought, not emotion!

What's important is how we think, not how we feel!

We are to consider, or to calculate, to add up the situation and come up with a biblical mental attitude for our response.

The emotional response is avoidance of responsibility, it's self absorption.

Remember: we are to love our neighbor as ourselves. If our response is charged with emotion then our self-absorption says me me me me....

A maturing believer will learn to disengage his or her emotions, and engage his faith through the mental activity of thought

Romans 5:3-6 (NKJV)

3 And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations,

knowing

that tribulation produces perseverance; 4 and perseverance, character, and character, hope.

5 Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

Verb, present, active, participle

knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.

The circumstantial participle which begins verse 3 describes the way in which the command of verse 2 is able to be fulfilled.

That is, that you know something; you know some doctrine.

In order to fulfil the command of verse 2 there has to be a certain amount of doctrine resident in the soul that we are ready to put on the line and use immediately when we get into a tough situation.

The **series** tense looked at the entire action as a summary command: Do this.

It is not looking at it in terms of time, or to start doing something you are not doing, or looking at something in terms of continuation into the present tense.

It is just simply issuing a summary command to do this; it should always characterize our life and our thinking.

This is the mature believer

Middle the grammatical voice that signifies that the subject of the verb is being affected by its own action or is acting upon itself.

The believer is the only one who can perform this action; no one else can do it for you.

It is an emphasis on our volitional choice, that if you are going to consider it joy, if you are going to share the happiness of God, then that is your volitional decision.

Happiness is not based on circumstances but on our mental attitude which is determined by whatever doctrine we have in our soul.

Walk in the Spirit:

a. Colossians 3:16 (NKJV)

16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

Ephesians 5:18 (NKJV)

18 And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit

4888 πληροῦ (plēroō) vb. pres. part. middle, imperative, second person, plural

(plēroō) vb. 1st pl. pres. part. middle, imperative, second person, plural (Ac 7:30); 1 LN 78.48 (86) 1 LN 59.37 NL, cause something to be full (Ac 13:52); 1 LN 13.48; Ac 2:22

The Spirit is the instrument of the filling, not the content

Galatians 5:16 (NKJV)

16 I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

Faith?

a. Human viewpoint thinking says: let's consume everything we can as soon as we can, after all you only live once.

Divine viewpoint thinking:

1 John 2:15-17 (NKJV)

15 Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. 17 And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.

1 Corinthians 9:24-25 (NKJV)

24 Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it. 25 And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown.

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As Christians we use the term "our faith" we are speaking of those principles, not the world's principles, but the biblical principles We implement for decision-making to live out our lives by