



## THE GOSPEL FAITH MISSION INTERNATIONAL

*Pacesetters Assembly, Ogba District Headquarters  
7, Odekunle Street, behind County Hospital,  
Ogba Aguda, Lagos.*

**TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY**

**29<sup>th</sup> April, 2025**

### **TOPIC: VICTORY OVER LIFE'S CHALLENGES**

**BIBLE TEXT:** John 16:33, James 1:2-4

#### **Introduction**

Life is not always smooth sailing; there will be trials, temptations, and difficulties. Understanding the nature of these challenges and recognizing where our true strength comes from is the foundational step towards overcoming them. Every individual, regardless of age or background, will face diverse kinds of challenges at some point. These can range from the seemingly small frustrations of daily life to significant trials that test our faith, resilience, and very being. Challenges come to different people in different ways and even though we may not be able to determine the type of trial we will experience; we can always depend on God to overcome. (John 16:33).

The Bible is a testament to the human experience of facing adversity and, more importantly, to the divine power available to overcome it. It is a book filled with stories of individuals who, despite overwhelming odds, found strength in God and emerged victorious. Joseph, David, Paul and many others Bible characters encountered many challenges in life before fulfilling destiny. In the Bible, we find timeless principles and promises that equip us to face our own challenges.

#### **Learning from the victors; Biblical examples of overcoming challenges**

- 1) **David and Goliath (1 Samuel 17):** This event took place during a time of conflict between the Israelites and the Philistines. Goliath was a formidable champion, and his challenge struck fear into the Israelite army. David's victory was not just a personal triumph but a significant moment in Israel's history, demonstrating God's power to deliver His people through unlikely means. The narrative emphasizes the difference between relying on human strength and weaponry versus trusting in the living God.
- 2) **Joseph (Genesis 37-50):** Joseph's story follows his journey from favoured son to betrayed slave, imprisoned man, and eventually, ruler of Egypt. His experiences of betrayal by his brothers and unjust imprisonment in Egypt led to his eventual rise to power as Prime minister. This story highlights God's sovereignty and His ability to work through suffering to fulfill His purposes.
- 3) **Paul's Shipwreck (Acts 27):** Paul was a prisoner being transported to Rome during which a shipwreck occurred. Paul's calm demeanor, prophetic word from God, and practical leadership during the shipwreck demonstrate the power of faith and God's providence even in the face of natural disaster.  
Paul wrote a lot of his letters from prison, encouraging others while he himself was in chains. In Philippians 4: 11-13, Paul was writing from prison in Rome. He had experienced significant hardship, including imprisonment, beatings, and shipwrecks. Yet, he speaks of contentment in  
all circumstances because his strength comes from Christ. This verse is a powerful personal testimony to finding divine strength amidst extreme adversity.

#### **What to do in the face of challenges**

- 1) **Look unto Jesus (Heb. 12: 1-4):** The bible informs us that we are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses as we run the race of life and because of this, we should look unto Jesus who is the author and finisher of our faith. As we focus our attention on Jesus, He gives us His grace and helps us in our moments of affliction. Heb. 4:16.

- 2) **Claim God's Assurance in Prayer:** In prayer, remind yourself and God of His promises. Express your trust in His ability to work all things for your good and to bring you through your challenges.
- 3) **Shift Your Focus to Christ's Victory and embrace the growth process:** When feeling overwhelmed, intentionally focus on the truth that Jesus has already overcome the world's power. His victory is your victory. Instead of resenting trials, try to see them as opportunities for spiritual growth and developing perseverance, as described in James 1: 2-4
- 4) **Consciously Rely on God's Strength:** Make a daily habit of acknowledging your need for God's strength and asking Him to empower you to face your challenges. This can be done through prayer throughout the day. You should also understand that God provides spiritual protection and weaponry.
- 5) **Meditate on God's Promises:** Regularly read and meditate on scriptures that speak of God's power, faithfulness, and promises of victory. Memorize key verses that offer hope and assurance.

### **The Promise of Victory - God's Assurance and Our Hope**

1) **All things are working for your good (Romans 8:28, vs 31-39):** This is a powerful declaration of the security and hope believers have in Christ. The "all things" in verse 28 encompasses both good and bad experiences, all of which God sovereignly works for the ultimate good of those who love Him. The rhetorical questions in verses 31-39 build a compelling case for the unwavering love and support of God, culminating

in the triumphant declaration that nothing can separate believers from His love, not even challenges!

2) **God will carry you through (Philippians 1:6):** Paul is writing to the church in Philippi from prison. Despite his challenging circumstances, he expresses confidence in God's faithfulness to complete the work He began in the Philippian believers. In the face of challenges, God is committed to our spiritual growth and He is faithful to carry us through till the end.

3) **Consider it pure joy (James 1:2-4):** James, likely writing to Jewish Christians dispersed among the nations, addresses the various trials they were experiencing, possibly including persecution and economic hardship. His instruction to "consider it pure joy" is not a call for naive optimism but a perspective shift rooted in the understanding that trials, when endured with faith, serve a transformative purpose in developing spiritual maturity. This is not pretending that challenges don't exist or that faith makes life magically easy. Instead, it is about understanding how to navigate the storms of life with unwavering hope, drawing strength from an inexhaustible source, and ultimately experiencing the triumph that God offers.

4) **Hope of eternal joy (Revelation 21:4):** This passage is part of John's prophetic vision of the new heaven and new earth, the eternal dwelling place of God and His people. It describes a future reality free from suffering, sorrow, and death, representing the ultimate and final victory over all the effects of sin and the challenges of this present world.

### **Conclusion**

We've seen that victory over life's challenges is not the absence of struggle, but the ability to navigate those struggles with faith, hope, and the power of God working within and through us. For every individual, the journey of faith will inevitably involve facing difficulties. The good news is that we are not left to our own devices. God has provided everything we need to not just survive, but to thrive and experience ongoing victory.