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Momentary Trials – Armor Up!

- 1) Life Bio – Challenges throughout life brings about “spiritual tempering”
- 2) Confronting the Lies and the Whys – 2 Corinthians 10:5 – taking thoughts captive!
  - a. The Accusers’ torment – saved others, couldn’t save her
  - b. What about the promises?
    - i. Heb 11:6 – faith, rewarder of those who diligently seek Him
    - ii. Ps 91:10 – no evil, nor plague come near your tent
    - iii. Prov 19:23 – Fear of the Lord –life, untouched by evil
    - iv. Rom 8:28 – all things work for good
- 3) The Bible Never said It Would Be Easy (versus a “comfy Christianity” message)
  - a. Ps 34:19 – many are the afflictions of the righteous
  - b. John 16:33 – Jesus – Tribulation in this world
  - c. 1 Peter 4:12 – Don’t be surprised by fiery ordeal – for our testing
  - d. 1 Peter 5:8 – Devil looking for whom he may devour
  - e. John 10:10 – Devil comes to steal, kill, and destroy
- 4) God’s Purposes in Our Suffering
  - a. Shift our focus from Temporal to Eternal – 2 Cor 4:17-18
  - b. Comfort others and Bear one another’s burdens – 2 Cor 1:3-5 and Gal 6:2
  - c. Trials produce Endurance which results in us being Complete – James 1:2-4
  - d. Affliction can draw us into learning Gods ways – Psalm 119:71
- 5) God is Faithful through it all! He’s our Redeemer
  - a. Isaiah 43:1-2 – redeemer, waters won’t overflow you, fires won’t burn you
  - b. “I can” vs “I can’t” – Phil 4:13 – through Christ I CAN do ALL things
  - c. God is always with us – Isaiah 41:10 – no fear, He’s OUR God, He will strengthen and uphold us!

- d. Job's 2<sup>nd</sup> half blessing – God's word to me and confirmed to me through two other brothers
- e. God's desire is to give us a new Heart and Spirit - Ezekiel 36:26

6) Broken heart to Braveheart

- a. A gift from a patient - Psalm 34:18 – The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.
- b. July 2 – God's transforming word to me

7) Don't have to be Brave if you're not in a Battle – Armor Up!

- a. The reason we need the armor - Ephesians 6:11-13
- b. You need the "full armor" – Ephesians 6:14-18
  - i. Truth – sets us free
  - ii. Breastplate of righteousness – protects the heart
  - iii. Gospel of Peace – walk in confidence
  - iv. Faith – protects of from the enemys attacks
  - v. Helmet of salvation – protects our thoughts
  - vi. Sword of the Spirit – cut through the lies
  - vii. Prayer – lifeline to the Father and intercession for others

8) Keys to Surviving Adversity and Trials

- a. We may never understand why things happen until we see Him face to face – 1 Corinthians 13:12
- b. Take every thought captive to the obedience of Christ
- c. Understanding that trials are part of the Christian life
- d. God always has a redeeming and eternal purpose in our suffering
- e. God is more concerned about our Heart than our personal comfort
- f. Our battle is spiritual – Armor Up!