Discouragement - cont.

- Hebrews 10:25 -

 Get out, get busy, go on each day doing what God wants you to do (1 Kings 19:5,15ff).

And let us not be weary in well-doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. So then, as we have opportunity, let us work that which is good toward all men, and especially toward them that are of the household of the faith. - Galatians 6:9-10 -

• Embrace the promises of God which will be given to you in the future (2 Peter 1:4).

unto an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fades not away, reserved in heaven for you - 1 Peter 1:4 -

• Endure to the end (James 5:11).

By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible. - Hebrews 11:27 -

Friend, when life disappoints you, remember, God will not let you down, let you go, or let you off. - Chris Reeves -

- Scripture of the Week -

"Rejoice in the Lord always: again I will say, Rejoice." - Philippians -

Consider three simple truths: First, true joy in life comes by being "in the Lord". Second, true joy can be found "always" in life. Third, "rejoice" is repeated which tells us to never forget to be happy in life.

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For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses. - 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 - But God, who comforts the discouraged, comforted us by the arrival of Titus - 2 Corinthians 7:6 -

In last week's bulletin, I wrote about how some Christians can get discouraged and stop serving the Lord. I surveyed some Bible characters who faced discouragement and I looked at some occasions which bring about discouragement. Here, I want to look at some biblical ways in which a person can overcome discouragement.

Before examining what the Bible says about overcoming discouragement, consider how worldly people today deal with discouragement. People who do not have God, Jesus, the Bible, or other Christians in their life, will often turn to the wrong things to get help with discouragement.

Some people face discouragement by turning to drugs and alcohol. They try to temporarily "escape" their problems, but when they sober up, they find that their problems are still there. Other people slump into heavy depression or even suicide. Other people face discouragement by causing more trouble for themselves - debt problems, breaking the law, hurting others, etc. This is no way to live. We all face discouragement at times, but we do not have to face it alone. God, Jesus, and faithful Christians are there to help us. Here are some things you can and should do to overcome your discouragement:

• Turn to God for help, he is there for you (Isaiah 43:1-2; Hebrews 13:5-6).

Jehovah also will be a high tower for the oppressed, a high tower in times of trouble. - Psalm 9:9 -

• Seek God's comfort, it is always there for you (I Samuel 30:6).

He heals the broken in heart, And binds up their wounds. - Psalm 147:3 -

 Take the higher view and focus on going to heaven, not on your present troubles (2 Corinthians 4:17).

For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed to us-ward. - Romans 8:18 -

 Pray more to a God who can change your situation, and worry less about what cannot change your situation (Hebrews 4:16; 1 Peter 5:7). In nothing be anxious; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. - Philippians 4:6 -

- Count your blessings, they outnumber your discouragements (James 1:18).
- The blessing of Jehovah, it makes rich; and he adds no sorrow therewith. - Proverbs 10:22 -
- Get help from faithful Christians, they have experienced the same things as you have (Isaiah 35:3).

Wherefore lift up the hands that hang down, and the palsied knees; and make straight paths for your feet, that that which is lame be not turned out of the way, but rather be healed. - Hebrews 12:12-13 -

• Assemble with the saints on Sunday and it will build you up to face your troubles during the week (Psalm 5:6-7).

not forsaking our own assembling together, as the custom of some is, but exhorting one another; and so much the more, as ye see the day drawing nigh.