**Message:** Trusting God in the storm - 5/18/25

- 1. <u>LifeGate's goal</u> Help nurture Christians into a relationship with the Lord that empowers
  - them... Be Faithful to the Lord, engage in civic and spiritual duties
    - Bless other people in the process
    - Resist the trends and deceptions of the darkness
    - Stand up under pressures and disappointments of Life
- 2. **Some fundamental truths** we understand in this journey....
  - a) God is your ultimate source of Strength, Wisdom and Support. 1 Chron. 19: 11-12
  - b) God prides Himself on a track record of taking care of those who "Lean" into Him Rom. 5:5
  - c) God is allowing all things that take place in our Life to work out for our good. Rom 8:28
  - d) God won't allow Life's journey to test us and stretch us more then we can endure. I Cor. 10
  - e) God is only going to give out His "SUPPORT/ STRENGTH/ GRACE one day at a time/ season at a time... Matt. 6: 34
  - f) While Satan does everything possible to twist your view of God, He is the Lord who sees your difficulties and understands.(Hagar – Gen. 16:13)Heb. 4:16
  - g) In the end He get's the glory for your journey & dependency upon Him. He is blessed that you acknowledge Him and Trust Him. 1 Chron. 29: 13- 13
- 3) God has written a book about you. Before you were born- Job Description and work art.
  - It's complicated...but it's another layer of God's amazing knowledge and involvement in our lives. ( Psalm 139: 16- 17, Psalm 40: 1- 2, 2b- 3, 5, 7-8)
- 4) Stumbling Blocks that try to take us out:
  - a) **We think we can control everything**: We're in charge It's our life, we can do what we want.... (John 5: 16 17, 19-20)
  - b) Often after a season of favor and blessing, we can slack off and tend to be less focused
  - c) Personal attacks, where people are trying to undermine our faith and focus
  - d) Shut down and isolate: Break off fellowship and connection with the body of Christ.
  - e) Just focus on my problems all day. I can't possible be of any help to anyone else.
- 5) The building Blocks of Faith:
  - a) Scripture reflection on God, His Character and Faithfulness
  - b) Promises The enrich our awareness of God's benefit package to all Christians -
  - c) Personal memories/ reflections of God's provision and Grace.
  - d) Listen to the testimonies of Others. Meant to boost your faith and lean into the Lord
  - e) Be alert for the **promptings of the Holy Spirit** to speak into your life and provide Surges of Faith and Encouragement...
  - f) Worship the Lord out of obedience and love, despite the apparent challenges and struggles facing You!! Hebrews: 13: 5-6, 15

#### 6) Conclusions:

a) Walking with he Lord in the ups and downs of Life is a tremendous privilege. Often the chaos and turmoil over shadows the concept of Life being a privilege.

Elenor Issacson - "No matter how terrible things get in your

Life, God is always working behind the scenes."

Don't give up!" "Spring always comes!" "Stop seeing your dark place as a prison. It's a spiritual sanctuary!"

- b) You will never become the person God wants you to be without the testing and challenging assignments He allows into your life.
- c) We've got to trust in the Lord's all superior knowledge and strength and remember He's got this!! While simultaneously pressing into His presence and call on our lives.
- d) **Praise and Worship** that happens in the deep testing of Life, falls into a much purer and refined worship. God is blessed by those who praise Him in the Good and Bad times....not just the good!
- e) **People are watching** how you journey through your testings. They want to see if your faith is real.
- f) **As your life story unfolds**, and you speak of the faithfulness of God throughout your journey.... It can become a steppingstone for others in your life to find Faith in Christ as well.

#### Psalm 40: 3-4a

Many will see what he has done and be amazed.

They will put their trust in the Lord.

<sup>4</sup>Oh, the joys of those who trust the Lord,

who have no confidence in the proud

**Finally:** When we face a fresh challenge or testing, we can many times, regret that we aren't as resilient as we thought we should be....

- A) God understand the emotional swings
- B) The key to all this is to "lean into the Lord" regardless
- C) Let close friends know..... Don't go it alone
- D) Daily- Bind the Strong man and loosen the purposes of Heaven into your life's situation!!

#### Matt. 16: 19

<sup>9</sup> And I will give you the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven. Whatever you forbid<sup>[h]</sup> on earth will be forbidden in heaven, and whatever you permit<sup>[i]</sup> on earth will be permitted in heaven."

## Trusting God in the Storm



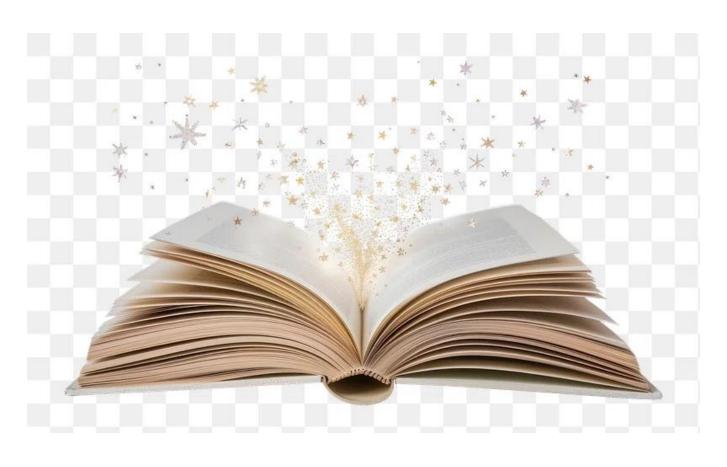
### LifeGate's Goals for Believers



# Fundamental truths about our Journey with the Lord:



## God has written a Book about you



# Stumbling blocks that can take us out in our faith walk.



## Building blocks that can increase our faith level.



### Conclusions:

- A) Walking with the Lord in the ups and downs is a priviledge
- B) You will never become the person God wants you to be without testings
- C) We've got to trust the Lord's superior knowledge
- D) Praise and Worship from the midst of the storm is very meaningful and pure.
- E) People are watching us....
- E) Your testimony becomes a steppingstone for others to come to faith in Christ.

### Wrapping up

Does God understand when I seem to flounder with the emotional swings of life?

