

Endure By Faith

There are many things in life that we just try to “get through”. We try to “weather the storm” or “ride it out” or whatever kind of motivational phrase will help us continue on.

But when we use these phrases, we’re really relying on one thing in order to “get through”...time. If we can just outlast or keep hanging on...it will get better.

And these aren’t bad things to think. But I want to present to you a better way...Endure By Faith.

To endure means to take a stand, to hold your ground. See this is important because this means you recognize that there’s something **against you**...and you are not just saying you will “get through” but that you won’t be moved!

Instead, you will Endure By Faith!

Hebrews 11:23 (NKJV)

By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden three months by his parents, because they saw he was a beautiful child; and they were not afraid of the king’s command.

Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, feared and hated the children of Israel. He commanded that every male baby be put to death by throwing them in the Nile River.

By Faith Moses was hidden for three months. Moses was born and they saw that he was a beautiful child. Now everyone thinks their baby is beautiful. But what the text is saying is that when they looked at Moses, he looked different. Somehow, some way, they just knew he was divinely favored.

We don’t know how. We just know what they did. By Faith...trust and confidence in God, they hid Moses as long as they could. And they were not afraid of the king’s command.

Did you know that you can act in a certain way that exercises wisdom and it doesn’t mean you are fearful? I can assure you that they didn’t sit on the front porch rocking their baby boy, or show him to the neighbors. They hid him...because they knew there was something special about him.

Then the time had come where he’s getting too difficult to hide. So they waterproofed a little basket and put it in the reeds by the river bank. This was strategic because it was where the Egyptian women went to bathe in the Nile.

Moses's sister stood back and watched. Pharaoh's daughter came down to bathe and found Moses. He was crying and she felt sorry for him. So Moses's sister came over and asked if she should get a Hebrew woman to nurse Moses, Pharaoh's daughter said yes. So Moses's sister went and got Moses's mother and she was paid by Pharaoh's daughter to nurse her own son!

By Faith he had been hidden. By faith he had been put in that basket. By faith the sister asked if she should get someone to nurse him.

Moses's life was one that was only spared By Faith! His parents trusted in God so much that they didn't even fear the king!

So Moses should have been dead. But God showed his parents that he was favored and not only was his life spared, but while being raised in the palace, he had a relationship with his real family and the children of Israel.

Moses Endured By Faith...first by the faith of his parents.

Hebrews 11:24-26 (NKJV)

By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, 25 choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, 26 esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward.

You know, one might think that if their life was spared, and God clearly had a hand in it, that maybe God has some grand plan for them...and when an opportunity for power or fame would come, then surely that was part of this great plan...

By Faith Moses refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter

Scholars believe that succession of the throne would come through Pharaoh's daughter which would make Moses next in line for the throne.

We're talking about the leader of the most powerful nation on earth at the time! Moses already had everything he could want and was in line for a position that most people would do anything to get.

We're talking about the kind of position where he could clap his hands and have servants carry out any command he could make.

You know how awesome it would be to clap your hands and someone bring you a double bacon cheeseburger with fries? ANYTIME YOU WANT!!!

OR some ribs... OR a steak...

When Moses gets to this height of power, one step from being the #1 guy, he gave it all up.

He made a choice.

Hebrews 11:25 (NKJV)

choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin

Moses saw this dividing line between Egypt and the people of God.

On one hand, he could have it all but his people would continue to suffer, on the other he could join them and they would still suffer...

I have to think if you or I were in his shoes, we might think we would wait until we were in power and then free the Israelites. But notice it says Moses chose to suffer instead of enjoying the passing pleasures of sin.

By faith he refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter. Because he refused to worship their gods, he refused to be something he was not, he refused to go with the world when he was called to stand for God.

He chose to Endure By Faith. He took a stand!

He chose righteousness over comfort. He chose to do the right thing that was unpleasant over the wrong thing that was fun and easy. I bet people thought that he was nuts! Why would he do this?

Hebrews 11:26 (NKJV)

esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward.

He considered blame or disgrace for the sake of Christ, to be greater than the riches of Egypt!

He was looking forward. He knew there was greater reward in standing with the people of God instead of the people of the world.

Greater reward in being part of their suffering than in being part of Egypt's sinful lifestyle.

Greater reward in being who God has called you to be than in who the world expects you to be.

He chose to Endure By Faith.

Mark 8:34 (NKJV)

When He had called the people to Himself, with His disciples also, He said to them, "Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.

Church this is what Moses did. He denied himself..."Not what I want, but what Jesus wants for me." And he took up his cross because he chose suffering.

Because he was looking forward to the reward!

We have the same choice to make today. If you want to Endure By Faith, are you going to take the easy way out? The way of compromise, the way of the world, because it's easy, because someone else thinks you should?

Or are you going to choose to trust Jesus? Even if it means you may suffer? Even if it means you may be rejected? Do you trust that the reward is worth looking forward to?

Moses chose. We all have a choice.

Hebrews 11:27 (NKJV)

By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured as seeing Him who is invisible.

By Faith Moses left Egypt

He left the only thing he had ever known. He left certainty for uncertainty.

He didn't worry about what the king would do. He knew it was right to leave. And when you do what is right, you can't fear the fall out...

If you do it By Faith. If you trust Jesus.

Moses endured as seeing Him who is invisible.

Moses obeyed God as though He were standing right in front of him! He was loyal to God because he knew that God was faithful to him. So he responded by what he knew, not what he could see...

Moses knew that what he was leaving behind didn't compare to what was to come, even though he would suffer...and the same holds true for us

2 Corinthians 4:16-18 (NKJV)

Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. 17 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, 18 while we

do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

Moses Endured By Faith because he left Egypt behind and trusted God for his future.

Did you know this period that Moses was in the wilderness...this is when he met God in the burning bush?

If you want to meet with God the best place to do that is when you're alone, and when you're removed from the things that come between you and Him.

I can tell you that if you turn your back on the world. God will meet you and speak to you.

But you've got to leave it By Faith. It will be hard, but He will help you Endure By Faith.

"I've realized the toughest things in life have been the best things for me"
~ Thomas Edward Patrick Brady Jr.

Hebrews 11:28 (NKJV)

By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of blood, lest he who destroyed the firstborn should touch them.

God sends Moses back to Egypt, the place he had left and turned his back on. But God sent Moses, to free the rest of His people.

Exodus 12:12-13 (NKJV)

'For I will pass through the land of Egypt on that night, and will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the Lord. 13 Now the blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you; and the plague shall not be on you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

By Faith Moses kept the Passover

See God had sent Moses to Pharaoh 9 times already to tell him to let His people go. And nine times Pharaoh says no. And nine times God sends a plague on the land. So **BY FAITH** Moses kept the Passover.

He believed what God had said. He trusted Him. He had confidence that if he did what God had said...He would Endure By Faith.

Isn't it difficult when you believe God tells you to do something and it doesn't seem to work out? What about the next time? Or the next time?

It takes faith...and we have to endure...take your stand...the one that says "I trust Jesus and if He tells me to do it, I'm going to do it and believe that He is working!"

Moses kept the Passover By Faith. It was God's appointed way of salvation from Egypt. Saved by the blood of the lamb...

And that's God's appointed way of salvation for you and me...saved only by the blood of the Lamb of God...Jesus Christ!

John 1:29 (NKJV)

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

How do you receive it? BY FAITH!

Then you Endure By Faith for the rest of your life. You take a stand...a stand for Jesus.

Like Moses...your life has been saved by another...Jesus!

Like Moses...you have a choice...indulge in the sin of the world, or stand with the people of God...looking to that future reward!

Like Moses...you can leave Egypt behind...ditch that place of bondage and slavery...for a place of freedom...Were the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom

Like Moses...you can be saved by the blood of the Lamb. Jesus paid the price to save you from your sin.

Will you say "no" to Egypt and "yes" to the Son of God who loved you and gave himself for you? Come to Christ just as you are. Run to the cross. Lay hold of the Son of God and put your trust in him.