# ♦ If You THINK You Can ◆

### God Looks at the Heart - 1 Samuel 16:7 (KJV)

**Mindset Matters** - Romans 8:5–6 (KJV)

**As a Man Thinketh** - Proverbs 23:7 (KJV) ... As he thinketh in his heart, so is he...

- How you see yourself leaks into how you treat others.
- People respond to what you project.

The Misunderstood Gospel - Suffering Savior / Suffering Church.

### Myth vs. Truth: Suffering, Sickness, & God's Will

Myth #1: God wants me sick.

Truth: Jesus healed all who came (Acts 10:38; Matt 8:16).

Myth #2: God is testing me with poverty.

Truth: "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want." (Ps 23:1).

Myth #3: Job proves God wants His people to suffer.

Truth: Job's story ends with double blessing (Job 42:10).

Myth #4: Hardship = holiness.

Truth: Holiness is life in Christ, not misery (John 10:10).

Myth #5: Suffering for Christ = living in misery.

Truth: NT suffering is persecution for His name (2 Tim 3:12; John 16:33).

Bottom Line: God may use trials, but He doesn't delight in sickness or poverty. Jesus' ministry is the model: preach/teach, heal, feed, forgive, restore.

#### We are to Model His Model

### **Rejoice Always -** Philippians 4:4–7 (KJV)

Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice... and the peace of God... shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

### Call to Action: Living Out Joy

- 1. End your day with thanksgiving.
  - Repent, thank Him, and ask for Kingdom dreams.
- 2. Start your day with gratitude.
- Thank Him for your work, your gifts, and the chance to represent His Kingdom.
- 3. Smile on purpose.
  - Shift your spirit and the room around you.
- 4. Speak life out loud.
  - Replace self-doubt with Philippians 4:13. Guard your self-talk.
- 5. Carry joy into every room.
  - Decide: "When I walk in, I bring light."

## Call to Prayer: Aligning with Joy

- Perspective:
  - "Lord, help me see myself as You see me loved, valuable, called to shine."
- Strength:
  - "Holy Spirit, when I'm tempted to complain or doubt, remind me to rejoice."
- Overflow:
  - "Father, fill me with joy that overflows to others, so they want to know Jesus."