

Reaching your full potential

Hebrews 12



A 3D illustration of a road that curves upwards into an arrow shape, symbolizing growth and potential. The road is dark gray with a yellow dashed center line and solid yellow edge lines. The word "POTENTIAL" is written in large, white, 3D block letters across the road. The background is plain white.

POTENTIAL

Testing

Testing = Full Potential

James 1

2 Consider it nothing but joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you fall into various trials. 3 Be assured that the testing of your faith [through experience] produces endurance [leading to spiritual maturity, and inner peace]. 4 And let endurance have its perfect result *and* do a thorough work, so that you may be perfect and completely developed [in your faith], lacking in nothing.

Romans 5

3 And not only *this*, but [with joy] let us exult in our sufferings *and* rejoice in our hardships, knowing that hardship (distress, pressure, trouble) produces patient endurance; 4 and endurance, proven character (spiritual maturity); and proven character, hope *and* confident assurance [of eternal salvation].

OUR HIGH PRIEST – JESUS – ALLOWS US
TO BE TESTED SO THAT WE CAN REACH
OUR FULL POTENTIAL

Hebrews 12

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses (all the heroes of faith from chapter 11), let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, ² fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross (Jesus was tested), scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. ³ Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

4 In your struggle against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. 5 And have you completely forgotten this word of encouragement that addresses you as a father addresses his son? It says,

“My son, do not make light of the Lord’s discipline,
and do not lose heart when he rebukes you,
6 because the Lord disciplines the one he loves,
and he chastens everyone he accepts as his son.”

⁷ Endure hardship as discipline (instruct, nurture, chastise); God is treating you as his children.

For what children are not disciplined by their father? ⁸ If you are not disciplined—and everyone undergoes discipline—then you are not legitimate, not true sons and daughters at all. ⁹ Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of spirits and live!

Submit

- To the time that it takes to get through
- To the situation you are in
- To the reason for the hardship
- To the offer of rest and peace while you wading through trouble
- To resting in God's promise even though you can't see the answer

¹⁰ They disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, in order that we may share in his holiness. ¹¹ No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it. (those who embrace this way of living)

¹² Therefore, strengthen your feeble (spiritual) arms and weak knees. ¹³ “Make level paths for your feet,”^l so that the lame (leg put out of joint) may not be disabled, but rather healed.

Blessing

May you stop being afraid of being tested by your High Priest and cooperate to reach your full potential

May you prepare your mind for action and be excited about God coaching and mentoring you

May you submit to God by hoping and resting in Him in the middle of difficulty

May you make level paths for your feet by choosing to live by faith alone

Life Application

What is the main thing that helped you on Sunday?

What is one thing you are going to do differently on Monday morning?

Write down how you changed this week.