

WINNING THE WAR

“Why Be Faithful” - Part 7 of 9

February 18, 2024

JESUS: “When the Son of Man (Jesus) returns, how many will He find on earth who have faith?” **Luke 18:8 (NLT)**

FIVE TRUTHS JESUS GIVES US ABOUT FAITHFULNESS

#1 GOD IS LOOKING FOR _____ PEOPLE

“For the eyes of the Lord search back and forth across the whole earth, looking for people whose hearts are perfect toward him, so that he can show his great power in helping them.” **2 Chronicles 16:9 (LB)**

#2 FAITHFUL PEOPLE ARE _____ TO FIND

“Everyone talks about how loyal and faithful he is, but just try to find someone who really is!” **Proverbs 20:6 (GNT)**

“God looks down from heaven on the entire human race; He looks to see if anyone is truly wise, if anyone seeks God. But no, all have turned away; all have become corrupt. No one does good. Not a single one!”

Psalms 53:2-3 (NLT)

#3 FAITHFULNESS IS THE KEY TO _____ AND _____.

“Every child of God can defeat the world, and our faith is what gives us this victory. No one can defeat the world without having faith in Jesus as the Son of God.” **1 John 5:4-5 (CEV)**

“A faithful person will be richly blessed...” **Proverbs 28:20a (NIV)**

#4 FAITHFUL PEOPLE BRING PEOPLE TO _____.

“Some men brought to Him a paralytic, lying on a mat. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, ‘Take heart, son; your sins are forgiven.’”

Matthew 9:2 (NIV ‘84)

#5 FAITHFUL PEOPLE _____ THE FAITH OF OTHERS.

...and what you have heard from me before many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. **2 Timothy 2:2 (RSV)**

“Simon (Peter), Satan has asked to have you, to sift you like wheat, but I have pleaded in prayer for you that your faith should not completely fail. So when you have repented and turned to me again, strengthen and build up the faith of your brothers.” **Luke 22:31-32 (LB)**

HOW CAN I BE FAITHFUL TO GOD?

1. God uses _____ to test our integrity.

“Whoever is faithful in small matters will be faithful in large ones, an whoever is dishonest in small matters will be dishonest in large ones.” Luke 16:10 (GNT)

“And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to someone else, who will give you what belongs to you?” Luke 16:12 (GNT)

2. God uses my _____ to test my unselfishness.

“Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.”

1 Peter 4:10 (NIV 1984)

“Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful.”

1 Corinthians 4:2 (NIV 1984)

3. God uses _____ to test my persistence.

“That is why we never give up. Though our bodies are dying, our spirits are being renewed every day. For our present troubles are small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever! So we don't look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever!”

2 Corinthians 4:16-18 (NLT)

“Don't get tired of helping others. You WILL be rewarded when the time is right, if you don't give up.” Galatians 6:9 (CEV)

4. God uses _____ to test my generosity.

Jesus: “Use your worldly resources to benefit others and make friends.

Luke 16:9a (NLT)

If you are untrustworthy about worldly wealth, who will trust you with the true riches of heaven? Luke 16:11 (NLT)

“You cannot serve to God and the power of money at the same time.”

Matthew 6:24 (Phillips)

PRINCIPLES TO REMEMBER IN THE WAR

1. God gives to generous people.
2. Obeying God's vision will bring God's provision.
3. When I do all that God tells me to do, he does what I can't do.
4. When I have a need I sow a seed.