

Finding Victory When Things Seem Hopeless

There seems to be no shortage of hopeless situations around the world. Along with that, we all have different times in our own lives that feel overwhelming and we feel hopeless. How do we find victory in the Lord when we feel this way? How can we soldier on for the cause of our faith when we sometimes feel that cannot bear another moment or take another step?

The Bible is full of examples of this in the lives of many who have gone before us. We can find strength and direction by looking to the way many dealt with these difficult times.

We feel hopeless when:

1. We don't know why or understand why something is happening to us.
 - a. Job (1:1, 2-3, 20, 3:1, 13:23-24, 23:3-4, 10:1-3)
 - b. Hannah (1 Sam1:1-23)
 - c. Joseph (37:18-28, 39:7-20, 40:12-15)
2. We have done as God has asked, but difficulties are still persisting.
 - a. Elijah (1 Kings 19:1-18)
 - b. Peter (Mark 14:26-31, 66-72)
 - c. Jeremiah (7:27, 14:12, 11:21-23, 20:7,9, 38:6, 29:11)
3. We feel overwhelmed by what is ahead of us.
 - a. Moses (Exodus 4:1-14)
 - b. Gideon (Judges 6-8)
 - c. Jesus (Matt. 26:36-46, Luke 22:39-46, Matt 23:37-38)

We can find the answers in our hope in God – Look to Paul

1. He gave himself to God's cause, no matter if he did not know what was to come of it.
(*Phil. 1:12-18, 19-24*)
2. He was willing to do what was asked, even though it did not stop his difficulties.
(*2 Cor. 4:11-18, 12:7-10*)
3. He went through things that many of us have not, but chose victory over giving in to defeat.
(*2 Cor. 11:23-30*)

Remember that sometimes hopeless situations are allowed by God, but they remind us of our ultimate hope, and can still accomplish good if we know how to use them. Remember *Romans 15:13* - "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope."