

September 23 | Sunday

From Surviving to Thriving: Keep on Keepin' On

Read [James 1:22-25](#)



24 | Mon – Past, present, future | Read [Deuteronomy 4:9](#)

While it is not good to live in the past, it can give us perspective. Children are not the only ones who need to hear stories of the amazing things God has done. Knowing how God has led, intervened and provided can encourage us in the present and prepare us for the future. Are you listening to the stories of others? What are some stories you could tell from your own life experience? Are you willing to share them?

25 | Tue – The source | Read [Isaiah 40:31](#)

Keeping on requires strength and some days that might be in short supply. What then? These encouraging words from Isaiah may help. When you receive the strength which the Lord gives, you are not only able to survive and even thrive, but others will be blessed as you point them to the Source of your strength. Who needs to hear these words? Be watching and willing to share this truth: those who hope in the Lord *will* renew their strength.

26 | Wed – Yet will I... | Read [Habakkuk 3:17-19](#)

When things are out of your control, it might be tempting to give up. But you always have the choice of how you will respond and what you will do next. The prophet Habakkuk lived in terrible times that caused people to say “Why is this happening if God really loves us?” See Habakkuk’s words. He did not minimize the difficulty and suffering but he ended with a strong resolve. Could Habakkuk’s powerful declaration become your own?

27 | Thu – Who do you work for? | Read [1 Corinthians 15:58](#) / [Colossians 3:23-24](#)

Doing the Lord’s work is important but is that just the pastor’s responsibility? Consider the unique opportunity you have to work for the Lord at your job every single day: by carrying out your responsibilities with integrity, doing the right things for the right reasons; by avoiding gossip and negative words; by viewing your co-workers or customers as people created in God’s image and treating them with respect; by praying with compassion for those around you who are struggling... what work is God asking you to for him today?

28 | Fri – Lack confidence? | Read [Hebrews 4:14-16](#)

Some people are just plain stubborn. They let nothing stand in their way, even when they are going the wrong direction. Most of us, however, may get confused at times, wondering if we are still heading the right way. Is this your situation? The good news is Jesus really does understand. Ask with humility and you *will* receive the mercy and grace you need. What will you pray for today?

29 | Sat – Well spent | Read [2 Corinthians 11:22-28](#)

Paul is one of the greatest examples of a Christ-follower who ‘kept on keeping on’. Later in life, when writing to the church at Corinth (as it was being infiltrated by false apostles), Paul reveals his commitment by listing some of the things he pushed through while doing what God had called him to do. God may never lead you through such extremes but you can still have the same attitude which propelled Paul in his lifetime. What motivates you?