Praying Through the Tough Times

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EUGENE, OREGON

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WHEN I NEED FAITH TODAY FOR TOMORROW

Christ in you, the hope of glory.

COLOSSIANS 1:27

Christ, my Lord, indwelling, inspiring, infusing power for courageous living in tough times, remind me that You only expect from me what You have placed or will place within me. You taught me to pray for daily bread. Thank You for the revelation that means bread today for tomorrow. You will give me today what I will need tomorrow. That's amazing, Lord!

I want to learn how to pray through tough times. Help me to know that You will equip me in advance as well as during the tough times. You will take up residence in me and provide the gift of faith to be applied to the crises I may have to confront. You are the Source of it all! You endow me with primary faith to accept You as Savior and Lord and invite You to make my soul Your home...but You also empower me with faith to accomplish what will be the very best for my life. So I don't need to thrash about trying to conjure up enough faith to face tough times; rather, I can claim Your faith

in me and what can be done by You for Your glory in me and around me.

As I pray through tough times You will release in me the aspect of Your character I most need for the circumstances ahead—courage, patience, endurance, discernment, wisdom, tenacity, and hope. I will be faithful because I will be full of Your gift of faith to be expressed through me. You have offered me the abounding, unsearchable riches of Your own limitless resources. Today...for tomorrow! You are my strength in tough times. Amen.

> By grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God.

> > **FPHFSIANS 2:8**

WHEN I NEED GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

Mercy unto you, and peace, and love, be multiplied.

Almighty God, it's an assurance of Your faithfulness I need in tough times. And all I need to do is turn to the Bible to hear the resounding affirmation of Your faithfulness. You told me Yourself, "My faithfulness shall be with you." Jeremiah was comforted at a very difficult time and could say, "The Lord's mercies...are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness." The psalmist couldn't express his gratitude enough: "I will sing of the mercies of the LORD forever; with my mouth will I make known Your faithfulness to all generations."

I need a character transplant from You as I face the challenges ahead today. Especially I want to be known for Your character trait of faithfulness. In spite of contradictory circumstances, I am committed to remain faithful to You, to my belief in Your goodness, and to the people who look to me for hope and inspiration for their own tough times. I pray that I may "be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord,"

knowing that my labor "is not in vain in the Lord." You are faithful! I can make it through today with that assurance. Amen. (Psalm 89:2,4; Lamentations 3:23; Psalm 89:1; 1 Corinthians 15:58.)

He giveth more grace.

JAMES 4:6 KJV

He increaseth strength.

ISAIAH 40:29 KJV

He giveth more grace when the burdens grow greater, He sendeth more strength when the labors increase:

To added affliction He addeth His mercy, To multiplied trials, His multiplied peace.

When we have exhausted our store of endurance, When our strength has failed ere the day is half done,

When we reach the end of our hoarded resources, Our Father's full giving is only begun.

His love has no limit, His grace has no measure, His pow'r has no boundary known unto men;

For out of His infinite riches in Jesus, He giveth, and giveth, and giveth again!

ANNIE JOHNSON FLINT