

Habits That Help Me Hold on In Hard Times PT 2

SERIES: Shaping Your Future Self – Part 5

“You’ve accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord. Now KEEP ON following him.” Colossians 2:6 (CEV)

1. KEEP MY LIFE CLEAN!

“If you keep yourself pure, you will be a tool God can use for his purpose. Your life will be clean, and you’ll be ready for the Master to use you for every good work.” 2 Timothy 2:21 (NLT)

2. KEEP MY EYES OPEN!

“Keep your eyes open for God, watch for his works; be alert for signs of his presence.” Psalm 105:4 (MSG)

3. KEEP MY PURPOSE FIRM!

“You, Lord, give perfect peace to those who keep their PURPOSE firm and put their trust in you.” Isaiah 26:3 (TEV)

TENACITY: The ability to keep on when you feel like giving up!

RESILIENCE: The ability to bounce back when put down

Focusing on God’s Purposes Will Produce Tenacity and Resilience

“God’s plans ENDURE forever and his purposes LAST eternally.” Psalm 33:11 (TEV)

GOD’S 5 PURPOSES FOR MY LIFE

1. He wants me to know him and love him (Worship)
2. He wants me to belong to his family (Fellowship)
3. He wants me to grow spiritually to be like Jesus (Discipleship)
4. He wants me to serve him by serving others (My Ministry)
5. He wants me to invite others to know him (My Witness)

“Give yourselves completely to God—every part of you. You want to be tools in the hands of God, used for his GOOD PURPOSES.” Romans 6:13 (LB)

“David served God’s purpose in his generation.” Acts 13:36a (NIV)

“Anyone who lets himself be distracted from the work I plan for him is not fit for the Kingdom of God.” Luke 9:62 (LB)

4. KEEP MY HEART GRATEFUL!

“Always give thanks for everything to God our Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.” Ephesians 5:20 (LB)

“Through thick and thin, keep your hearts at attention, in adoration before Christ.” 1 Peter 3:15 (MSG)

“In all your prayers ask God for what you need, always asking him with a thankful heart.” Philippians 4:6 (TEV)

“Keep on praying. keep on being alert, and keep on being grateful!” Colossians 4:2 (CEV)

WHY ARE WE GRATEFUL EVEN IN HARD TIMES?

- **BECAUSE GOD WILL GIVE ME STRENGTH!**

“God will strengthen you with his own great power. And you will not give up when trouble comes, but you will be patient. Then you will joyfully give thanks to the Father!” Colossians 1:11-12 (ICB)

- **BECAUSE BAD TIMES CAN'T CHANGE GOD'S PLAN!**

“Do you see what we've got? An unshakable kingdom! And do you see HOW THANKFUL WE MUST BE? Not only thankful, but brimming with worship, deeply reverent before God!” Hebrews 12:28 (MSG)

- **BECAUSE OUR LIVES ARE BEING CHANGED!**

“All of us...can reflect the glory of the Lord. As the Spirit of the Lord works within us, we become more and more LIKE HIM and we reflect his glory even more!” 2 Corinthians 3:18

“When someone becomes a Christian, he becomes a BRAND NEW person inside. He is NOT THE SAME ANYMORE! A new life has begun!” 2 Corinthians 5:17 (LB)