

Strength to Endure

Description

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1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Several years ago, our discipleship class engaged in a book study about the persecuted church around the world. We read stories of suffering for the sake of Jesus and the mission of the church. One testimony recounted a young man's experience of torture. While telling of physical abuse and emotional trauma, with tears streaming down his face, he began to laugh and sing in the joy of the Lord! In such a brutal context, how could he not succumb to the fear and doubt so understandably tempting? The Spirit of God provided a way out! While not a literal escape from that moment of physical torment, he received strength and faith to endure it!

Paul reminds us, "We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed" (2 Corinthians 4:8-9). In your daily life and work, what are the pressures and perplexities that surround you? Let's stay attentive to the Spirit that we might recognize the way out when we need it.

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