

Series: Rebuilding Our Lives According to God's Design

Title: Rebuilding our Trials

Text: (II Cor 4:7-12) Testimony to Others
(2 Cor 1:3-4) Ministry to Others

I. What is a Testimony?

(Acts 1:8) (I John 1:3) (II Cor 4:7-12)

God uses Trials to Make us Useable: (Job 23:10)

God Uses Trials to Train Us for Service: (1 Peter 1:7)

- A. Face your Trials: (Jn 16:33)(1 Pet 4:12)(Phil 1:6)
- B. Don't Waste Your Trials: Learn: (1 Pet 4:13)(2 Tim 2:3)
- C. Embrace the Trials: (1 Pet 4:15-16)
- D. Identify with Christ in It: (I Pet 4:17-18)
- E. Shape Your Trials into a Testimony: (1Pet 4:19)

II. Our Life Story can be told in Chapters Like a Book.

Chapter 1 - How I became a Christian: (I Pet 1:5)

Chapter 2 - How I made changes in my life so that I could be a more effective influence for Godliness: (I Pet 1:5)

Chapter 3 - How I totally dedicated my life to God's will

• Faith in the principles of God's Word. (I Peter 1:5)

Chapter 4 - How I became active in serving the Lord

• Faith in the disciplines (I Pet 1:6)

Chapter 5 - How I was misunderstood & was rejected in my attempts to serve others: (I Pet 1:6) (I Peter 4:12)

Chapter 6 - How I learned to be more like Christ through Trials

• Faith in the comfort of Scripture. (I Peter 1:6)

Chapter 7 - How I have been able to share with others in similar troubles the same truths God has taught me

• Faith in the effectiveness of God's counsel to others.(2 Cor 1:3-4)(II Pet 1:7)

Chapter 8 - How God allowed me to reproduce the spiritual maturity of my life in the lives of others

(I Pet 1:7) (2 Tim 2:2)

III. Five Basic Parts of an Effective Chapter in Your Testimony

PART ONE - The Failure

PART TWO - My Efforts

PART THREE - The Consequences

PART FOUR - Applying God's Truth

PART FIVE - The Results

IV. The Five Parts of a Testimony from Scripture:

V. God Provides Ongoing Limitations as a Living Example

VI. God's Bible Examples of Continuing Limitations:

(Romans 15:4) (1 Cor 10:11)

VII. How to Transform Painful Memories Into an Effective Life Message: (II Cor 7:10)

VIII. You can have an Effective Testimony

Build Your Testimony Around the Principles of God's Word: (Phil 3:7-17)