

Thought For The Week...

The Slingshot Principle

by Mary Loudermilk

Character



Life doesn't always go as expected. Trouble comes to all of us, unexpectedly and sometimes intensely. Such times define our character and test our strength. It has been said that, "Adversity introduces a man to himself."

Oliver Wendell Holmes stated, "If I had a formula for bypassing trouble, I would not pass it round. Trouble creates a capacity to handle it. I don't embrace trouble; that's as bad as treating it as an enemy. But I do say meet it as a friend, for you'll see a lot of it and had better be on speaking terms with it."

A minister friend has developed what he calls "The Slingshot Principle." Like the stone in the pocket of a slingshot, we want to move forward in life but it seems that the more we strive, adversity pulls us back and back and back some more. Eventually, when we feel we can take no more, the pressure releases and we shoot forward beyond what we could even anticipate. It seems we must go back before we go forward, and this is not easy to understand, especially in the middle of a difficult situation.

The Bible story of Joseph, found in Genesis 37-41, illustrates the Slingshot Principle. Joseph was the favored son of his father and despised by his older brothers. This was more than a simple case of sibling rivalry. When the opportunity presented itself, the brothers placed Joseph in a pit and devised a plan to kill him. Then followed a better plan. Joseph was "in the slingshot"-sold to a passing caravan, taken to Egypt, sold as a slave, falsely accused, and put in prison. Years passed, and the backward pressure was intense.

Joseph's story does not end there. A series of events brought him before Pharaoh to interpret his dreams. Joseph revealed that a time of plenty followed by a great famine would come upon Egypt, and he told how they should prepare. The pressure of the slingshot released, propelling him from the pit and prison to the palace. Pharaoh asked, "Can we find anyone like this man, one in whom is the spirit of God? ... You shall be in charge of my palace, and all my people are to submit to your orders. Only with respect to the throne will I be greater than you."

A modern day story of triumph is that of Admiral Jim Stockdale, who for eight years endured torture as a prisoner of war in the "Hanoi Hilton." When interviewed by Jim Collins in his book *Good to Great*, Stockdale stated of this horrific period of his life, "I never doubted not only that I would get out but also that I would prevail in the end and turn the experience into the defining event of my life, which in retrospect, I would not trade."

All of us will face trouble in life and feel that backward stretch. We must remember that "Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to

**TUNE IN FOR
GREAT GOSPEL
MUSIC
KJIC 90.5 FM
KING JESUS
IS COMING**



Praise Singers we will have our monthly Music Practice this Thursday, October 10th from 7-9PM. Great things happening and Excited about our music!

"POWER HOUR" PRAYER MEETING!

Jesus will be there!



Tues night 7:30 pm

Make it a habit too hard to break!



A special "Thank You" to all who supported and helped with Santa Fe's Car Show and movie night. It was greatly appreciated and POSF will be blessed thru this event!

Youth Fun Night

Youth will be having a Fun Night this Friday night. See Bro. Matt Clark for more info and details!!



Youth Ministry

Candy Donations Needed

POSF will be having a **community candy rain** on October 31st. We only have 3 more weeks to gather lots of CaNDy! There will also be a fire truck from 6-8 for the kids. Also if you find candy marked down please get it because we will also be needing it for the Christmas parade. © *Thinking ahead!*

Trunk or treat



POSF will be doing a community Trunk or Treat on October 31st. There are 20 spaces available so sign up as soon as possible. Decorate your trunk. See Bro. Darrell Boone for more specific information and reserve your space!



Congratulations to graduate

Felisha Parker
Class of 2013

We are extremely proud of Felisha and she will be honored in a special ceremony next Sunday, October 13th at 10am with a celebration luncheon after service.

Birthdays and Anniversary's

Week of October 6-12



10 - Donna Roberson
Bill & Becky Taylor



*Each of us is an innkeeper who
decides if there is room for Jesus!*

Neal A. Maxwell

Holiness Isn't Contagious

Thus says the Lord of hosts: "Consider your ways!" —Haggai 1:7 (Read: Haggai 2:10-14)

Evil is like a contagious disease. Just as one person coughing in an airplane cabin can infect all the passengers, evil seems to spread among a group.

Holiness, on the other hand, must be deliberately sought. We do not become holy by associating with godly people in a cloistered environment. Holiness comes through faith and obedience to the Lord.

That is the point Haggai made centuries ago. He spoke about meat that had been set apart for sacrifice to God. If that meat touched some other food, it could not make the other food holy (2:12). On the other hand, ceremonial uncleanness could be easily transmitted by a mere touch (v.13).

Haggai told the people of Israel, who assumed they were holy because of their godly heritage, that they actually had become defiled because of their disobedience (v.14).

If you want to be holy, you must first give yourself in faith to God. Then you must learn what God wants you to do and in His strength obey Him. Having devout parents and associating with religious friends may help, but they cannot make you holy.

We become holy only as we live close to the Lord and do what He tells us to do.

Help me, O Lord, to be afraid
Of disobedient ways;
And may I seek what pleases You
And gives You highest praise. —Sper

**Holiness is not a virus to be caught; it's a way of life
to be sought.**

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*Thank You for Choosing
To Worship With Us!*