

NOT GROWING WEARY WHILE DOING GOOD

(Maintaining our spiritual fervour)

The Apostle Paul wrote,

“And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.” (Galatians 6:9)



- I want to begin by saying that as believers we have the potential to make a great difference in our world for eternity if we simply maintain our spiritual fervour for the things of God and follow God's plan for our life



The Apostle Paul wrote,

“Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us,” (**Ephesians 3:20**)

- Whilst as believers we have the ability to do great things for God's glory, the moment we come to Christ we also enter into a very real spiritual war where the enemy of our soul, the Devil, will try and prevent us from realising our full potential in Christ

- THE BIBLE MAKES THIS VERY CLEAR

The Apostle Paul wrote,

“Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.” (2 Timothy 3:12)



The Apostle Peter wrote,

“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.” (1 Peter 5:8-9)

In the book of Acts we read,

“We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God.” (Acts 14:22b)



Jesus Himself said,

“The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.” **(John 10:10)**



- So as Christians we have the ability to do great things for God's glory IF we can continually maintain our spiritual fervour and remain focused on fulfilling God's plan and destiny for our lives

- So today I am going to look at two things in relation to not growing weary while doing



- Firstly, what can cause us to lose our spiritual vitality so that we being to grow weary in doing good, and
- Secondly, and most importantly, how can we continually maintain our spiritual fervour in a world that will always have challenges, so that we can fulfil our God given assignment for our lives here on earth

Firstly, what can cause us to lose our spiritual vitality so that we begin to grow weary in doing good:



1) Discouragement when we are going through trials or challenges in life, or when we are rejected by others for our faith

- Especially during the times where there seems to be no light at the end of the tunnel, or when friends and family shun us for our faith

2) From disappointments that we experience in life when others let us down or when things hoped for did not eventuate

- We must not allow setbacks in life to take our focus off the Lord



3) THE CARES OF THIS WORLD – Looking at our problems and circumstances rather than to Jesus



Jesus Himself said in His explanation of the Parable of the Sower,

“Now these are the ones sown among thorns; they are the ones who hear the word, and the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things entering in choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.” (Mark 4:18-19)

4) Allowing the things of this world to become too great a focus in our lives (As Christians we are to be in the world but not of it)



The Apostle John wrote,

“Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world – the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life – is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.” **(1 John 2:15-17)**

Jesus Himself said,

“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” (Matthew 6:19-21)



5) The negative opinions of others that have the potential to dampen our enthusiasm. We must be very careful about what voices we listen to



- In the book of Numbers in the Old Testament we see how a whole generation of the Children of Israel (except Joshua and Caleb) failed to enter into the promised land because of the negative unbelieving report of just 10 people (spies)

6) Allowing the wrong people to come into our inner circle of friends. We must choose our friends wisely

- We need to have people of faith and godly vision and integrity in our inner circle of friends



In the book of Proverbs we read, “The righteous should choose his friends carefully, For the way of the wicked leads them astray.” (Proverbs 12:26)

7) Not being careful about what we look at and listen to.
(Most YouTube adds are now all about self and making money – The smart phone is a great distraction for many people)



The Apostle Paul wrote, “Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy-meditate on these things.” (Philippians 4:8)

8) Becoming disconnected from fellowship with other believers. We cannot do the Christian walk alone. We all need the encouragement of other believers

In the book of Proverbs we read,

**“The backslider in heart will be filled with his own ways, but a good man will be satisfied from above.”
(Proverbs 14:14)**



9) When we start neglecting our spiritual disciplines of prayer and the reading the word of God and when our quiet times with the Lord are no longer the most important part of our day.

- We need to be continually built up spiritually to overcome the spiritual warfare that we all experience in life as Christians

AND



10)Simply becoming physically tired and jaded. It is our body that carries our spirit. It is so important that we look after our body and have sufficient rest and exercise



Secondly, and most importantly, how can we continually maintain our spiritual fervour in a world that will always have challenges so that we can fulfil our God given assignment for our lives here on earth



1) Maintaining ongoing intimacy in our walk with the LORD. Our strength must be a spiritual strength

In the book of Daniel we read, “...but the people who know their God shall be strong, and carry out great exploits.” (Daniel 11:32)

- Our quiet times with the LORD need to be the most important part of our day
- Starting the day with the LORD gives us perspective for how to do life well
- Spending time with the LORD is a great key to maintaining our spiritual fervour



In the book of Acts we read,

“Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marvelled. And they realized that they had been with Jesus.” (Acts 4:13)



In the book of Isaiah we read,

“He gives power to the weak, And to those who have no might He increases strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, And the young men shall utterly fall, But those who wait on the Lord Shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.
(Isaiah 40:29-31)



- Spending quality time with the LORD is a great key to continually maintaining our joy in a world that will always have trials and challenges



- We must never allow the Devil and life's circumstances to steal our joy
- Ongoing intimate fellowship with the LORD helps us to maintain our JOY at all times

King David wrote,

“I will praise You, O LORD, with my whole heart; I will tell of all Your marvellous works. I will be glad and rejoice in You; I will sing praise to Your name, O Most High.”
(Psalm 9:1-2)



“You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.” **(Psalm 16:11)**

King David also wrote,

“O GOD, You are my God; Early will I seek You; My soul thirsts for you; My flesh longs for You in a dry and thirsty land where there is no water. So I have looked for You in the sanctuary, To see Your power and Your glory. Because Your lovingkindness is better than life, My lips shall praise You.” (Psalm 63:1-3)



- **Our love for God will give us the strength and ability to overcome all of the trials and disappointments that we all experience in life**

Jesus Himself emphasised the importance of maintaining an intimate and abiding relationship with Him when He said,

“Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.” (John 15:4-5)



2) We need to win the battle for the mind. We must be always quick to take all wrong thoughts captive before they take us captive



- The enemy, the Devil, will continually put wrong thoughts in our mind to try and distract and discourage us from flowing in God's plan for our life
- Thoughts of defeat and discouragement have the ability to steal our spiritual vitality

The Apostle Paul wrote,

“For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ.” **(2 Corinthians 10:4-5)**



3) The importance of having our faith continually built up by mediating on the word of God



The Apostle Paul wrote,

“So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.” (Romans 10:17)

- Continually meditating on the word of God helps to keep our faith strong so that we are able to overcome life's difficulties and challenges

The LORD said to Joshua,

“This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.” (Joshua 1:8)



- **Especially given the lawless times that we are now living in spending time in the word of God is crucial if we are to build our lives on a firm foundation**

The Apostle Paul wrote,

“And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.” **(Romans 12:2)**



- Continually renewing our mind with the word of God helps us to lead victorious and overcoming lives as we build our lives on the wisdom and promises of God

4) The importance of connecting with and flowing in God's will and plan for our life AND continually operating in our own unique gifts and callings

- As Christians we have been saved for a purpose (Ephesians 2:10)
- There will always be a divine discontentment when we are not engaging with God's will and plan for our life
- It is in engaging with God's will and plan for our life that we experience the abundant life that Jesus spoke of and the joy that comes from serving the Lord



- As we flow in God's plan for our life and in our own unique spiritual gifts, He anoints us to perform those tasks and assignments that He has planned for our lives
- It is in flowing in His anointing as we fulfil God's plan for our life that energises us in our Christian walk and gives us true purpose and meaning in life

Jesus Himself said,

“My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work.” (John 4:34)



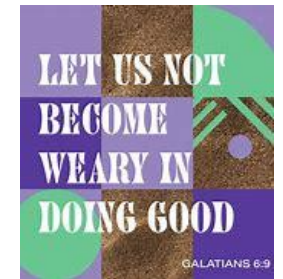
- Having a clear understanding of what God has called us to do helps us to know what to say “Yes” to and what to say “No” to



- This is such a great key to avoiding burnout in our lives and ministries
- We are most energised when we simply stay connected to God’s will for our lives and flow in our own unique gifts and callings

The Apostle Paul wrote,

“Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: If prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness. **(Romans 12:6-8)**



5) Continually being quick to give our problems to the Lord in Prayer



- As believers we can be assured that we have a God who is both willing and able to help us in time of need

The Apostle John wrote, “Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.” **(1 John 5:14-15)**

The Apostle Peter wrote,

**“casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.”
(1 Peter 5:7)**



- **Worry and anxiety will undermine our spiritual vitality**
- **We must simply refuse to worry about things and learn to give our cares to the Lord in prayer**

- God is always willing to give us the guidance that we need to do life well



In the book of James we read,

“If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.” (James 1:5)

- **Having a lifestyle of prayer is a great key to maintaining our spiritual vitality as we continually give our problems to the Lord in prayer**

**The Apostle Paul wrote, “pray without ceasing,”
(1 Thessalonians 5:17)**



The Apostle Paul also wrote,

“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 4:6-7)

6) Being continually filled with the Holy Spirit

- As we give out to others, we need to be continually filled afresh with the Holy Spirit ourselves
- It is so important that we live our lives continually in the power of the Holy Spirit
- Being continually filled with the Holy Spirit empowers us to do all those things that God calls us to do in life



The Apostle Paul wrote,

“that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height - to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us,” **(Ephesians 3:17-20)**



7) CONTINUALLY TRUSTING GOD AT ALL TIMES AND IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES



- Where God guides, He provides
- There is no better place than in the will of God for our lives. Choosing to trust God at all times prevents us from worrying about our circumstances and from becoming discouraged
- It is so important that we do not allow our temporary circumstances to overwhelm us

- **The bible makes it clear that we can trust God at all times with our future**



In the book of Proverbs we read,

“Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.” (Proverbs 3:5-6)

Jesus Himself said,

“Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ Or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.” **(Matthew 6:31-33)**



King David wrote,

“Trust in the Lord, and do good; Dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness. **Delight yourself also in the Lord,** And He shall give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord, Trust also in Him, And He shall bring it to pass.” **(Psalm 37:3-5)**



- Living a life of simple trust and obedience at ALL times is a great key to not growing weary while doing good

8) The importance of having fellowship with other believers



- We cannot do the Christian walk alone
- If the Devil can disconnect a believer from having fellowship with other believers, he is more readily able to bring discouragement upon that person
- Out of fellowship a Christian will quickly lose their passion for the things of God

- Gathering together with other believers is a great key to maintaining our spiritual fervour for the things of God
- There is a corporate anointing when believers fellowship together



Jesus Himself said, “For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them.”
(Matthew 18:20)

- Especially when going through trials and challenges having fellowship with other believers helps to empower us to remain strong in our walk with the Lord

In the book of Hebrews we read, “Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.” (Hebrews 10:23-25)



The Psalmist wrote,

“Those who are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God. They shall still bear fruit in old age; they shall be fresh and flourishing. To declare that the LORD is upright; He is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in Him.” **(Psalm 92:13-15)**

AND JUST QUICKLY



9) The importance of **LEARNING** to live one day at a time

- We must not take a down payment on tomorrow's problems, next week's problems, next month's problems, next year's problems
- God gives us the grace to handle all of today's problems
- Learning to live one day at a time is a great key to maintaining our spiritual vitality and not being overwhelmed by life's problems
- God is always going ahead of our tomorrows



Jesus Himself said,

“Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.” (Matthew 6:34)



10) That we are ALWAYS quick to forgive those who hurt us or who do not treat us fairly

- We must refuse to take on offences and to be always quick to forgive those who hurt us or who let us down in life
- Unforgiveness towards others will greatly affect the intimacy of our fellowship with the Lord
- We will have many opportunities to be offended in life but we must always be quick to forgive others for our sake



Jesus Himself spoke of the dangers of unforgiveness when He said in relation to the times that we are now living in,

“And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many.” (Matthew 24:10-11)



- The simple fact is that we cannot have our heart open to God and shut to others at the same time**

- **Being a good forgiver is therefore a great key to maintaining our spiritual fervour so that we do not grow weary while doing good**



Jesus Himself said, “And whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses. But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father in heaven forgive your trespasses.” **(Mark 11:25-26)**

- **The simple fact is that we will not always be appreciated for the things that we do for others and the Lord**



- So, one great key to maintaining a right heart and to not being offended, is that we always do things with a motivation of pleasing God rather than to get the approval of others

This is why the Apostle Paul wrote, “And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.” (Colossians 3:23-24)

AND

11) BE THE BEST YOU. Don't compare yourself to others

- God has a unique plan for each of our lives



The Apostle Paul wrote,

“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.” **(Ephesians 2:10)**

- We all have an important ministry
- We all need one another in the body of Christ

- We will be the greatest blessing for others and the most fulfilled in life just doing what Jesus tells us to do
- We will be most energised when we wholeheartedly commit to following God's plan for our own lives
- So may I finish by encouraging everyone to be the best at what God has called you to do in life in each season of your life
- In this way you will never grow weary while doing good



- I will begin to draw my message today to a close with three passages of Scripture



Again, Jesus Himself said, “My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work.” (John 4:34)

Jesus also said, “The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.” (John 10:10)

- **When we are flowing in God’s will for our life, we will still have joy even during the trials that we all go through in life. We see this in the life of Jesus who only ever did the will of His Father in heaven**



In the book of Hebrews we read,

“looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.” (Hebrews 12:2)

- So may I again encourage everyone to give your best to what God has called you to do during your time on earth**
- It is in flowing in God’s plan for our life that truly His yoke is easy and His burden is light**

- **The simple fact is that God graces us and empowers us to do the things that He has called us to do in life**



- It is in doing what God calls us to do in life that He will use our lives to make a great impact in this world for eternity
- It is also in fully connecting with God's plan for our life that we will also embrace the abundant life that Jesus spoke of as we do not grow weary while doing good

**I will finish again with the words of the Apostle Paul,
“Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly
above all that we ask or think, according to the power
that works in us,” (Ephesians 3:20)**

