

## The Process of Turning Suffering to Glory

*"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted." Matthew 5:4*

What an amazing promise our Father gives us through the spoken promise of Jesus!

“For his anger endureth but a moment; in his favour is life: weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.” *Psalm 30:5*

Rise up all you who are broken hearted over the harsh reality of life in this world where the enemy of God is seeking to steal, kill and destroy. Do not embrace pity and sorrow. Do not become slothful and complacent. Do not allow apathy to close in. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad for you are a walking demonstration of grace.

What is the cost of a testimony? Well, let's look at the process:

- Pain is introduced into our lives through some form of a circumstance or event (*1 Peter 4:12*).
- The continued pain can be defined as suffering. This makes it uncomfortable to stay in the same condition (*Job 1:21*).
- Suffering produces sorrow in our lives. This sorrow produces repentance (*2 Corinthians 7:10*).
- The process of suffering introduces us to the opportunity to become a proving ground, testing the Lord and His promises and helps us to become more Christ-like (*1 Peter 1:7*).
- The test will produce evidence of God's character in the midst of hurt and confusion (*James 1:3, 12*).
- The evidence provides the opportunity to be a witness and to declare the glorious mercy, comfort and sustaining grace of God (*2 Corinthians 1:3-6*).
- The declaration is an outward cry of worship to the King of Kings (*Psalm 34:1*).
- The worship blesses our Father who inhabits the lips of our praise (*Psalm 22:1*).
- In the presence of our Father, all pain is gone. He makes all things new (*2 Corinthians 5:17*).

It's really not that we have to go through sufferings, but rather that we get to worship, and that's comforting.

In His Grace,

*Pastor Jerry Baker & Chaplain Eric Kieselbach*