

# **Meet Your Psychiatrist: He Helps You Live by Faith**

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## I. Introduction.

- A. Text: 2 Corinthians 4.
- B. Our biggest temptation is to quit in the midst of suffering.
- C. Paul encourages people to trust God.
- D. We stand and walk by faith in the midst of trials. (2 Corinthians 5:7, Psalm 116:10)
- E. We all need faith if not for ourselves, then for others.
- F. There are four words that summarize the work of the Spirit in the area of faith. Treasure plus trouble plus trust equals testimony.

## II. Treasure.

- A. We are important to God—we are his treasure house.
- B. This treasure is in something fragile—an earthen vessel.

## III. Trouble.

- A. Treasure leads to trouble.
- B. God permits trouble so that we will value the treasure over the vessel. He wants us to value the giver over the gift.
- C. God permits trouble to bring him glory. The treasure comes out in the midst of suffering.
- D. God permits trouble so that we might comfort other people.

## IV. Trust.

- A. When trouble comes the Holy Spirit gives us faith if we let him.
- B. Doubt is vacillating, but it is not doubt. Doubt is rebellion. We need faith in the midst of doubt. (Hebrews 3)
- C. Faith is a miracle. The Spirit generates faith through the Word of God.
- D. The secret is to get one's eyes off of circumstances and get one's eyes on God's Word.

## V. Testimony.

- A. We believe; therefore, we speak.
- B. We need to hear if God has given someone faith for something. (Psalm 116)

**Application questions:**

1. Why does God permit trouble?

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2. When have you experienced faith from God in the midst of trouble?

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3. Why must treasure, trouble, and trust precede a testimony? Explain.

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