

WHAT TO REMEMBER WHEN DISCOURAGED**First: God has CHOSEN me to be a part of His family.**

1 Peter 1:2a (NLT) "God the Father knew you and chose you long ago, and his Spirit has made you holy."

1 Peter 1:3 (Phillips) "For it is His boundless mercy that has given us the privilege of being born again so that now we are members of God's own family."

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NASB) "Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come."

Romans 8:36-39 (NLT) "And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love. No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Second: God is WORKING in my life.

1 Peter 1:2 (Msg) "God the Father has his eye on each of you, and has determined by the work of the Spirit to keep you obedient through the sacrifice of Jesus."

He cleanses you and then He changes you.

1. You are richly BLESSED.**2. You will have increasing FREEDOM from anxiety and fear.**

1 Peter 1:7 (Msg) "Pure gold put in the fire comes out of it proved pure; genuine faith put through this suffering comes out proved genuine. When Jesus wraps this all up, it's your faith, not your gold, that God will have on display as evidence of his victory."

2 Corinthians 4:17 (LB) "This short time of distress will result in God's richest blessing on us forever and forever."

Romans 5:3-5 (NLT) "We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance. And endurance develops strength of character, and character strengthens our confident hope of salvation. And this hope will not lead to disappointment. For we know how dearly God loves us, because he has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love."

Third: God has SECURED my future.

1 Peter 1:4 (Phillips) "And God has reserved for His children the priceless gift of eternal life. It is kept in Heaven for you, pure and undefiled, beyond the reach of change and decay."

Christian Hope

Titus 3:5 (NCV) "he saved us because of his mercy. It was not because of good deeds we did to be right with him. He saved us through the washing that made us new people through the Holy Spirit."

Ephesians 2:8-9 (NIV) "It is by grace you are saved and that not of yourself, it is the gift of God. Not of works so no man can boast about it."

1 John 10:28-29 (NLT) "I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one can snatch them away from me, for my Father has given them to me, and he is more powerful than anyone else. No one can snatch them from the Father's hand."

Romans 8:39 (NLT) "I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, not demons, nothing in all creation can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus."

1 Peter 1:5 (LB) "God in His mighty power will make sure that you get there safely."

1 Peter 1:6 (Phillips) "This means tremendous joy to you, even though at present you may be temporarily harassed by all kinds of trials."

1 Peter 1:12 (Msg) "Do you realize how fortunate you are? Angels would have given anything to be in on this!"

Application:

How often do you experience discouragement?

Not often 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 Often

What steps do you take when you are discouraged?

How important is what God says to you when you are facing discouragement?

Not very 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 Very

Where do you find your source of hope?

What do you do when you are faced with trials that seem to be too much for you to handle?

Identify a current trial that you are going through at this moment.

Can you identify the purpose that God has for the current trials that you are facing.

How should you respond to God at this point in your circumstance?

What have you learned about the "living hope" that you have "in Christ" that will help you maintain your victory in the midst of trial this week?

Memory Verse: **1 Peter 1:3 (NASB) "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."**