

## A FAITH THAT PASSES THE TESTS OF LIFE

A Faith That Works When Life Doesn't – Part 23

Rick Warren

September 5-6, 2020

“...when tests and challenges come at you from all sides, know that under pressure, your faith-life is forced into the open and shows its true colors.”  
James 1:2-3 (MSG)

“God looks down from heaven on the whole human race to test and see who is acting with understanding and truly seeking Him.” Psalm 53:2

“Examine yourselves to see if your faith is really genuine. TEST yourselves!” 2 Corinthians 13:5 (NLT)

### YOUR FAITH IS BEING TESTED THESE DAYS Through 5 Cultural Flashpoints

<i>Viral Infirmary</i>	Covid-19
<i>Social Instability</i>	Violence in Cities
<i>Financial Insecurity</i>	Shaky Economy/Out of Work
<i>Racial Inequality</i>	Will Anything Change?
<i>Political Incivility</i>	Bitterness & Blaming

### GOD IS TESTING OUR FAITH THROUGH \_\_\_\_\_

“King Uzziah had a contagious skin disease for the rest of his life and had to live in quarantine. He was not permitted to set foot in the Temple of God. So his son, Jotham, managed the royal palace and governed the nation.”  
2 Chronicles 26:21 (MSG)

“My friends and companions must keep their distance because of my plague. Even my relatives must stay far away.” Psalm 38:11 (ESV)

### WHEN DO PLAGUES HAPPEN IN THE BIBLE? 3 (of many) Reasons

#### 1. WHEN WE \_\_\_\_\_

“The people soon forgot God and what he'd done for them, and they wouldn't wait for God's plan. Instead, they became greedy and they let their cravings run wild. They tested God's patience. So God gave them what they wanted, BUT he sent a plague along with it.” Psalm 106:13-15 (NLT)

#### 2. WHEN WE \_\_\_\_\_

God: “A short time ago, you repented and did what was right. You freed your countrymen who had been slaves. You even made a covenant with me about this in my Temple. But now you've changed your mind and dishonored me. You've enslaved them again in a new slavery. Therefore, here's what I'm going to do: Since you've disobeyed me by not giving freedom to ALL of your countrymen, I'm going to give you some 'freedom' – freedom to die by a war or a plague or famine! And you'll be considered a disgrace by the other nations of the world.” Jeremiah 34:15-17

#### 3. WHEN \_\_\_\_\_

“David prayed to God, ‘Was it not I who ordered this? I'm the one who has sinned and done wrong! These people are innocent. What have they done? So, O Lord my God, let your hand fall upon me and my family, but do not let this plague remain on your people.’” 1 Chronicles 21:17 (NIV)

“For when the time of judgment comes, judgment MUST BEGIN with the family of God!” 1 Peter 4:17

### WHAT SHOULD WE BE DOING DURING OUR PLAGUE?

#### 1. CONTINUE TO \_\_\_\_\_

“David built an altar to the Lord there and he gave offerings of worship to God. And the Lord answered his prayer, and the plague was stopped.”  
2 Samuel 24:25 (NLT)

#### 2. CONTINUE TO \_\_\_\_\_

“Aaron the priest stood between the living and the dead until the plague was stopped.” Numbers 16:48 (NLT)

### WHEN WILL WE BE ABLE TO WORSHIP TOGETHER AGAIN?

10 Reasons: Why We Are Being Patient

## A FAITH THAT KNOWS THE END OF THE STORY

A Faith That Works When Life Doesn't – Part 24

Rick Warren

September 12-13, 2020

*"Be patient, then, brothers, until the Lord's coming." James 5:7*

*"Do not give up hope, because the Lord is coming soon." James 5:8*

*"Speak and act as those who are going to be judged." James 2:12*

*"The Judge is near, ready to appear." James 5:9*

### WHAT WILL THE LAST DAYS BE LIKE?

Jesus: *"There will be GREAT DISTRESS in the world at that time, unparalleled since the world began." Matthews 24:21 (NJB)*

Jesus' description:	Matthew 24:7-15
Paul's description:	2 Timothy 3:1-5
Peter's description:	2 Peter 3:3, 10-13

*"The day of the Lord's return will come unexpectedly like a thief... So, since everything we see will one day come to an end, WHAT KIND OF PEOPLE SHOULD WE BE? We should LIVE holy and godly lives, LOOK FORWARD to the coming Day of God and speed its coming! We look forward to a new heaven and new earth that Jesus has promised, a world where goodness lives." 2 Peter 3:10-13*

### HOW SHOULD I LIVE TO PREPARE FOR HIS COMING?

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
*"Getting angry at things will never help you live the righteous life God wants. So get rid of all the filth and evil habits you've learned. Then humbly accept God's Word planted in your heart, because it can save your soul." James 1:20-21*

*"Christ is our life, and when he comes again, you will share in his glory! So put all evil things out of your life: sexual sinning, doing evil, letting evil thoughts control you, wanting things that are evil, and greed. This is really serving a false god. These things make God angry. In your past, evil life you also did these things. But now also put these things out of your life: no anger, no bad temper, no doing or saying things to hurt others, and no using evil words when you talk." Colossians 3:4-8 (NCV)*

2. \_\_\_\_\_

*"...The Spirit that God gave to live in us wants us for himself alone. So, give yourself completely to God... Draw close to God and He will draw close to you!" James 4:5, 7-8 (NCV)*

*"Continue to live in fellowship with Christ so that when he returns, you will be full of courage and not shrink back from him in shame." 1 John 2:28 (NLT)*

3. \_\_\_\_\_  
*"You know that troubles test your faith and develop endurance. SO, let your endurance grow, for when it is fully developed, you will be strong in character and ready for anything!" James 1:3-4*

*"May God who makes everything holy and whole, make you HOLY AND WHOLE, put together – spirit, soul, and body – and KEEP YOU FIT for the coming of our Master, Jesus Christ." 1 Thessalonians 5:23 (MSG)*

4. \_\_\_\_\_  
*"You will always do the right thing if you obey the most important law in the Scriptures. It is the law that commands us to love EVERYONE else as much as we love ourselves." James 2:8 (CEV)*

*"May the Lord make your love grow more and more and multiply for each other and for ALL PEOPLE so that you will love others as much as we love you. May your hearts be made strong so that you will be holy and without fault before our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes back with all who belong to him!" 1 Thessalonians 3:12-13 (NCV)*

5. \_\_\_\_\_  
James: "God's generosity to us . . . (James 1:5, 1:12, 1:17, 1:18, 4:6) ...should make us generous to others!" (James 1:27, 2:16)

Jesus: *"Sell what you have and give to those in need. This will store up treasure for you in heaven! By getting your treasure into heaven, it will be safe for eternity; no thief can steal it and no moth can destroy it." Luke 12:33 (NLT)*

*"Tell people to use their money to do good. They should be rich in good works and should give happily to those in need, always ready to share with others whatever God has given them. By doing this they are storing up real treasure for themselves in heaven – it is the only safe investment for eternity! And they will be living a fruitful Christian life down here as well." 1 Timothy 6:18-19 (LB)*

6. \_\_\_\_\_  
*"I can never stop thanking God for all the generous gifts he has given you, now that you belong to Christ Jesus. Now you have every spiritual gift you need as you eagerly wait for the return of our Lord Jesus Christ." 1 Corinthians 1:4, 7 (NLT)*

***“Remember, the reason the Lord is waiting is so that people have time to be saved.” 2 Peter 3:15 (NLT)***

## A FAITH THAT DOESN'T NEED TO HOARD

A Faith That Works When Life Doesn't – Part 25

Rick Warren

September 19-20, 2020

**Hoarding:** “The excessive or extreme accumulation of anything, particularly money or possessions.”

*“Remember (my brothers and sisters) that when you know the good thing you ought to do but you don't do it, then you sin. So then, you who are rich should grieve and lament because of the impending trouble that is headed your way. Your wealth is rotting and moths will eat your fine clothes. Your gold and silver will be worthless, but it will be a witness testifying against you that you...have HOARDED and PILED UP wealth in these last days.”*

James 4:17 & 5:1-3

- GOD DOESN'T OPPOSE \_\_\_\_\_, HE OPPOSES \_\_\_\_\_

*“When THE LORD blesses you with riches, you have nothing to regret.”*  
Proverbs 10:22 (CEV)

*“...You have hoarded and piled up wealth in these last days.”* James 5:3

- MONEY IS A \_\_\_\_\_

### WHY DO PEOPLE KEEP HOARDING MORE WEALTH?

1. OUT OF \_\_\_\_\_ (Scarcity Mentality)

*“Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with whatever you have, because God has said, ‘I will NEVER leave you and I will NEVER abandon you!’”* Hebrews 13:5 (NIV)

2. OUT OF \_\_\_\_\_

*“...If your riches increase, don't be proud.”* Psalm 62:10 (LB)

### 3 BIBLICAL REASONS FOR SAVING

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
*“The wise man saves for the future, but the foolish man spends whatever he gets.”* Proverbs 21:20 (LB)

2. \_\_\_\_\_  
*“Invest what you have, because after a while you will get a return.”*  
Ecclesiastes 11:1 (NCV)

### Jesus' Parable of Talents – Matthew 25:14-30

3. \_\_\_\_\_  
*“If you have been stealing from others, stop it. Make an honest living and work hard, so you will have something to give to people in need.”*  
Ephesians 4:28 (CEV)

*“Right now you have plenty and can help others. Then at some other time they can share with you when you need it. In this way, everyone's needs will be met.”* 2 Corinthians 8:14 (NLT)

**Hoarding** is selfish stockpiling.  
**Saving** is strategic stewardship.

*“Your wealth is rotting and moths will eat your fine clothes. Your gold and silver will be worthless...”* James 5:2-3

### WHATEVER I \_\_\_\_\_

*“Jesus said, ‘Watch out! Always be on your guard against all kinds of greed. Real life is never defined or measured by how much you own.’ Then Jesus told them a story: ‘A rich man owned a very productive and profitable farm. He thought to himself, “What should I do with all this surplus harvest? I have no room to store it all!” Then he said to himself, “I know! I'll just tear down my barns and build myself bigger barns! Then I can keep all my grains and all my other goods myself! Then I can say to myself, “I'm set! I've stored up more than I need for many years. I'll take life easy, eating, drinking, and enjoying myself.”’ But God said to him, “You are a fool! This very night you'll die. Then who will get what you hoarded for yourself?” This is how it will be for those who pile up stuff for themselves instead of building a rich relationship with God.’”* Luke 12:15-21

*“Tell people to use their money to do good. They should be rich in good works and should give happily to those in need, always ready to share with others whatever God has given them. By doing this they are storing up real treasure for themselves in heaven – it is the only safe investment for eternity! And they will be living a fruitful Christian life down here as well.”*  
1 Timothy 6:18-19 (LB)

## A FAITH THAT HANDLES WEALTH WISELY

A Faith That Works When Life Doesn't – Part 26

Rick Warren

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*“Remember that when you know THE GOOD THING you ought to do but you don't do it, then you sin. So then, you who are rich...you have hoarded and piled up wealth in these last days. And the fair wages that you failed to pay your employees are now crying out against you and those cries have reached the ears of the Lord God Almighty! You've lived on earth, thinking only of yourself and your luxuries, indulging every whim and pleasure you have. But like a cow fattened to be killed, you've fattened yourselves and lived in ways that cause innocent people to be condemned to die... Remember the Lord is coming back.” James 4:17-5:8*

### HOW TO MAKE, SAVE & USE WEALTH WISELY

#### 1. IN ACCUMULATING WEALTH, \_\_\_\_\_

*“You've hoarded and piled up wealth in these last days.” James 5:3b*

*“‘I'll just build bigger barns for myself!’ ...God said, ‘You fool!...’”  
Luke 12:18, 20*

INSTEAD: \_\_\_\_\_

*“The wise man saves for the future, but the foolish man spends whatever he gets.” Proverbs 21:20 (LB)*

#### 2. IN ACQUIRING WEALTH, \_\_\_\_\_

*“The fair wages that you have failed to pay your employees are now crying out against you and those cries have reached the ears of the Lord God Almighty!” James 5:4*

*“Wealth you get by dishonesty will do you no good, but honesty will save your life.” Proverbs 10:2 (TEV)*

INSTEAD: \_\_\_\_\_

### 4 MARKS OF A TRULY SUCCESSFUL BUSINESS

**C** \_\_\_\_\_ must benefit!

**O** \_\_\_\_\_ must benefit!

**W** \_\_\_\_\_ must benefit!

**S** \_\_\_\_\_ must benefit!

*“Wealth from get-rich-quick schemes quickly disappears; wealth from hard work grows...” Proverbs 13:11 (NLT)*

*“Any wealth you get from crime robs you of your life.” Proverbs 1:19 (CEV)*

*“Can a human rob God? ‘Yes! You have robbed me!’ says the Lord. But you ask, ‘How? How are we robbing you?’ You have robbed me of your tithe and offerings due to me. So you, and your whole nation, are under a curse for robbing me. You need to bring your whole tithe to My Storehouse, so that there may be food in My House. ‘Test me in this,’ says the Lord All-Powerful ‘and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it! Then I will protect your crops from being devoured by pests, and I will prevent the fruit in your fields from shriveling before harvest!’ Then everyone around you will call you blessed!” Malachi 3:8-12*

*“Honor the Lord by giving him an offering of the first of all that your land produces. If you do, He will fill your barns with overflowing grain, and your barrels will overflow with the finest wine.” Proverbs 3:9-10*

#### 3. IN ALLOCATING WEALTH, \_\_\_\_\_

*“You've lived on earth, thinking only of yourself and your luxuries, indulging every whim and pleasure you have...” James 5:5*

*“A pretentious, showy life is an empty life; a plain and simple life is a full life.” Proverbs 13:7 (MSG)*

*“You've fattened yourselves and lived in ways that has caused innocent people to be condemned to die.” James 5:6*

INSTEAD: \_\_\_\_\_

*“It is possible to give freely and become more wealthy, but those who are stingy will lose everything.” Proverbs 11:24 (NLT)*

*“The generous person will prosper; and whoever refreshes others will himself be refreshed.” Proverbs 11:25 (NIV)*

*“When the Lord blesses you with riches, you have nothing to regret.”  
Proverbs 10:22 (CEV)*

## A FAITH THAT HELPS ME SEE THE TRUTH

James: A Faith That Works When Life Doesn't – Part 27

Rick Warren

October 3-4, 2020

*"People always think they're doing the right thing, but in the end it leads to their death." Proverbs 16:25*

*"The human mind is the most deceitful of all things. It is incurable. No one can understand how deceitful it is." Jeremiah 17:9 (GW)*

### SOME WAYS I DECEIVE MYSELF

1. WHEN I THINK \_\_\_\_\_  
*"DON'T BE DECEIVED, dear brothers and sisters. Every good gift you have is a perfect present from God above. It has come down from the Father who created all of the heavenly lights." James 1:16-17*

2. WHEN I THINK \_\_\_\_\_  
*"Do not merely listen to the Word, and so DECEIVE YOURSELVES. You must DO what it says to do!" James 1:22*

Jesus: *"Now that you know these things, you will be blessed IF you DO them!"  
John 13:17 (NIV)*

3. WHEN I THINK \_\_\_\_\_  
*"If you think you are religious but you do not control your tongue, then your religion is worthless and you DECEIVE YOURSELF." James 1:26 (TEV)*

4. WHEN I ASSUME \_\_\_\_\_  
*"You say to God, 'My beliefs are flawless and I can't be blamed for anything.'" Job 11:4 (NIV/NJB)*

*"The Lord says, 'My thoughts are completely different from yours! And my ways are far beyond anything you could imagine. For just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my views are higher than your views.'" Isaiah 55:8-9 (NLT)*

5. WHEN I CONFUSE \_\_\_\_\_  
*"Don't fool yourself. Don't think that you can be wise merely by being up-to-date with the times." 1 Corinthians 3:18 (MSG)*

*"...you are trusting in deceptive words that are worthless." Jeremiah 7:8 (NIV)*

6. WHEN I THINK \_\_\_\_\_  
*"God is the only lawgiver and judge. He alone can save and destroy. So, who do you think you are, to judge someone else?" James 4:12 (TEV)*

*"If you think you're something when you're really nothing, you are only deceiving yourself." Galatians 6:3 (TEV)*

7. WHEN I THINK \_\_\_\_\_  
*"Don't fool yourself. 'Bad companions will ruin good character.'" 1 Corinthians 15:33 (TEV)*

8. WHEN I THINK \_\_\_\_\_  
*"Do not deceive yourselves; no one makes a fool of God. You will reap exactly what you've planted." Galatians 6:7 (TEV)*

*"If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us." 1 John 1:8 (NIV)*

### HOW CAN I WORK ON MY BLINDSPOTS?

1. ASK \_\_\_\_\_  
Job: *"Teach me what I cannot see; if I've done wrong, I will not do so again." Job 34:32 (NIV)*

2. ASK \_\_\_\_\_  
*"Fools think they need no advice, but the wise listen to others." Proverbs 12:15 (NLT)*

*"Look closely at yourselves. Test yourselves to see if you are living in the faith." 2 Corinthians 13:5a (NCV)*

3. ASK \_\_\_\_\_  
*"Jesus said, 'I have come to give sight to the blind and to show those who think they see that they are really blind.'" John 9:39b (NLT)*

David: *"None of us can see our own errors; so, DELIVER ME, LORD, from my hidden faults!" Psalm 19:12 (TEV)*

**A FAITH KNOWN FOR INTEGRITY**  
A Faith That Works When Life Doesn't – Part 28  
Rick Warren  
October 10-11, 2020

"A person is worth what his reputation is worth." Proverbs 27:21b (NJB)

"A good reputation is more valuable than the most expensive perfume."  
Ecclesiastes 7:1a (NLT)

"Choose a good reputation over great riches. Being held in high esteem is far better than having silver or gold." Proverbs 22:1 (NLT)

Paul: "...We're being as careful in our reputation with the public as in our reputation with God." 2 Corinthians 8:21 (MSG)

"An elder must be a man whose life cannot be spoken against. He must be faithful to his wife. He must exhibit self-control, live wisely, and have a good reputation... Also, he must have a good reputation with people outside the church who speak well of him so that he can't be disgraced and trapped by Satan." 1 Timothy 3:2, 7 (NLT)

"In the same way, deacons must be people who are respected and have integrity... First, they must be evaluated. Then, if they have a good reputation, they may become deacons." 1 Timothy 3:8, 10 (NLT)

## HOW TO BECOME KNOWN FOR INTEGRITY

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
"Above all, my brothers and sisters, don't swear by heaven or by earth or by anything else. Just let your 'Yes' be yes and let your 'No' be no – just say what you mean. Do this so you can't be judged and condemned." James 5:12

Paul: "Am I like the people of the world who say yes when they really mean no? As surely as God is true, I am not that sort of person! My yes means yes because Jesus Christ, the Son of God, never wavers between yes and no!"  
2 Corinthians 1:17b-19a (NLT)

Jesus: "I tell you to never swear by heaven, which is God's throne, or by the earth, which is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, his great city, or even by the hair on your head, because you can't turn one hair white or black. Just say a simple 'Yes' if you mean yes or 'No' when you mean no. Your word should be enough. Anything more than that is from the Evil One." Matthew 5:34-37

2. \_\_\_\_\_

"Someone who holds back the truth causes trouble..." Proverbs 10:10 (TEV)

"Why are you lying? Do you think your lies will benefit God?"  
Job 13:7 (TEV)

"In the end people appreciate frankness more than flattery."  
Proverbs 28:23 (LB)

3. \_\_\_\_\_  
"Speak the truth in a spirit of love..." Ephesians 4:15 (TEV)

"Speak ONLY what is helpful for building others up, according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen." Ephesians 4:29

"Thoughtless words can wound as deeply as any sword, but wisely spoken words can heal." Proverbs 12:18 (TEV)

"Intelligent people think before they speak..." Proverbs 16:23 (TEV)

"There is a right time and a right way to do everything..."  
Ecclesiastes 8:6 (TEV)

4. \_\_\_\_\_  
"LET OUR LIVES lovingly express the truth in all things – speaking truly, dealing truly, living truly." Ephesians 4:15 (Amp)

"People who can't be trusted are destroyed by their own dishonesty."  
Proverbs 11:3 (TEV)

"David shepherded the people with integrity of heart; and with skillful hands he led them." Psalm 78:72 (NIV)

## DAVID'S COMMITMENT TO PERSONAL INTEGRITY

"This is my song (of commitment) to your love and justice O Lord... I will lead a life of integrity in my own home. I will refuse to look at anything degrading or demeaning. I will refuse to support anything shameful or corrupt. I will not be dishonest and I will have nothing to do with anything evil. I will silence anyone who spreads gossip and slander about others and I will not tolerate anyone who looks down on others. Instead, I'll keep my eyes on the godly of the land and they will be my heroes. Only those with integrity shall minister to me. No one who cheats or lies will ever have a position in my royal court." Psalm 101:1-7

## A FAITH THAT CAN TRANSFORM WEAKNESSES

A Faith That Works When Life Doesn't – Part 29

Rick Warren

October 17-18, 2020

*"...I don't have time to tell you about Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel...whose weaknesses were turned into strengths." Hebrews 11:32, 34*

*"Are you HURTING? Then you should pray. Are you happy? Then you should sing songs of praise. Are you SICK? You should call the church elders to pray over you and anoint you with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will save the SICK PERSON; the Lord will raise him up. And if you've sinned, you'll be forgiven. Therefore, CONFESS your faults to each other and PRAY for each other so that you may be HEALED." James 5:13-16*

*HURTING: kakopatheo = having trouble, suffering*

*SICK: ästheneo = a weakness or an illness*

*SICK PERSON: kamno = one who has grown weary and weak*

*"Confess your faults to one another – your sins, slip-ups, false steps, offenses, and weaknesses – and pray for one another, so that you may be healed and restored to a spiritual tone of mind and heart." James 5:16 (Amp)*

### THE PROCESS GOD USES TO TRANSFORM MY WEAKNESSES

#### I. I MUST \_\_\_\_\_ MY NATURAL WEAKNESSES

*"...Be honest in your estimate of yourself. Don't think you're better than you are." Romans 12:3 (NLT/NCV)*

*"...We too are only men! We're just human like you!..." Acts 14:15*

#### II. I MUST \_\_\_\_\_ MY WEAKNESSES

##### 1. MY WEAKNESSES SHOULD \_\_\_\_\_

*"To keep me from becoming conceited because of these surpassingly great revelations, there was given me a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. But he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you...'" 2 Corinthians 12:7-9a*

##### 2. MY WEAKNESSES SHOULD \_\_\_\_\_

*"Some parts of the body that seem weakest and least important are really the most necessary." 1 Corinthians 12:22 (LB)*

##### 3. MY WEAKNESSES SHOULD \_\_\_\_\_

*"...I am with you; that is all you need. My power shows up best in weak people!" 2 Corinthians 12:9a (LB)*

*Paul: "For when I am weak, then I am really strong. The less I have, the more I depend on him." 2 Corinthians 12:10b (LB)*

*"I have cheerfully made up my mind to be proud of my weaknesses, because they mean a deeper experience of the power of Christ." 2 Corinthians 12:9b (Ph)*

#### 4. MY WEAKNESSES SHOULD \_\_\_\_\_

*"God comforts us in our troubles, so that we can comfort others in any trouble with the same comfort that we ourselves have received from God."*

*2 Corinthians 1:4*

*Jesus to Peter: "...When you've returned to me, strengthen your brothers."*

*Luke 22:32*

#### III. I MUST \_\_\_\_\_ MY WEAKNESSES TO CHANGE THEM

##### • VULNERABILITY IS \_\_\_\_\_

*"God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." James 4:6b*

##### • VULNERABILITY IS \_\_\_\_\_

*"Confess your faults to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed." James 5:16a*

##### • VULNERABILITY IS \_\_\_\_\_

*"We all stumble in many ways." James 3:2a*

##### • VULNERABILITY IS \_\_\_\_\_

*"If you are truly wise and understanding, you will show it by your good life and the deeds that you do with the humility that comes from wisdom." James 3:13*

*"Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up!" James 4:10*

#### PAUL'S EXAMPLE OF VULNERABILITY

*"We speak with complete honesty, hiding nothing, sharing our true feelings, and opening our heart wide to you." 2 Corinthians 6:11*

##### • A TRUE LEADER ADMITS \_\_\_\_\_

*"I think you ought to know dear brothers, about the hard time we went through in Asia. We were really crushed and overwhelmed, and feared we would never live through it. We felt we were doomed to die and saw how powerless we were to help ourselves; but that was good, for then we put everything into the hands of God." 2 Corinthians 1:8-9*

##### • A TRUE LEADER ADMITS \_\_\_\_\_

*"There is nothing in us that allows us to claim that we are capable of doing this work. The capacity we have comes from God." 2 Corinthians 3:5 (TEV)*

##### • A TRUE LEADER ADMITS \_\_\_\_\_

*"I am the worst of all sinners." 1 Timothy 1:15b*

*"I have the desire to do what is right, but I just can't carry it out! For what I do isn't the good I want to do; No, I keep doing the evil I don't want to do!"*

*Romans 7:18b-19*

##### • A TRUE LEADER ADMITS \_\_\_\_\_

*"I came to you in weakness and fear...so that your faith might not rest on men's wisdom but on God's power." 1 Corinthians 2:3, 5*

- **A TRUE LEADER ADMITS** \_\_\_\_\_

*"Oh, my dear Corinthian friends! I have told you all my feelings; I love you with all my heart." 2 Corinthians 6:11 (LB)*

## A FAITH THAT CAN HEAL ILLNESSES

*A Faith That Works When Life Doesn't - Part 30*

*Rick Warren*

*October 24-25, 2020*

*"Jesus went everywhere, teaching...preaching...and healing people who had all kinds of disease and sickness." Matthew 4:23*

### 3 MISTAKEN VIEWS ABOUT DIVINE HEALING

#### ERROR 1: I CAN BUY \_\_\_\_\_

A magician named Simon: Acts 8:9-12, 18-22

#### ERROR 2: IT'S NEVER GOD'S WILL \_\_\_\_\_

*"...those who suffer according to God's will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good." 1 Peter 4:19 (NIV)*

See also: John 16:33, Philippians 1:29, Colossians 1:24, 1 Thessalonians 3:3

#### ERROR 3: MIRACLES ENDED WITH \_\_\_\_\_

*"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." Hebrews 13:8 (NIV)*

*"Are you HURTING? Then you should PRAY. Are you happy? Then you should sing songs of praise. Are you SICK? Then you should call the church elders to PRAY over you and anoint you with oil in the name of the Lord. And the PRAYER offered in faith will heal the SICK PERSON; the Lord will raise him up. And if you've sinned, you'll be forgiven. Therefore CONFESS your faults to each other and PRAY for each other so that you may be HEALED. The earnest PRAYER of a believing person is powerful and effective. For example, Elijah was a human being just like us. Yet when he PRAYED earnestly that no rain would fall, so there was no rain three and a half years! Then, he PRAYED that it would rain, and it poured down and everything began to grow again!"*

*James 5:13-18*

#### WHEN SHOULD I PRAY FOR HEALING?

"Are you hurting?"	(kakopatheo)	= having trouble, suffering
"Are you sick?"	(ästheneo)	= feeling weak or sick
"The sick person"	(kamno)	= weary and feel like giving up
"No rain for 3 ½ years"		= a drought or dry spell in your life

#### ANYTIME I'M \_\_\_\_\_

#### WHY AREN'T PEOPLE HEALED EVERY TIME?

- We don't know God's will!

- God uses illness in many ways:

#### 1. TO \_\_\_\_\_

*"It was good for me to be afflicted so that I might learn your decrees." Psalm 119:71 (NIV)*

*"Sometimes it takes a painful experience to make us change our ways."*

*Proverbs 20:30 (TEV)*

#### 2. TO \_\_\_\_\_

*"I want you to know, my dear brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has helped spread the Good News." Philippians 1:12 (NCV)*

*Jesus: "This sickness will not end in death. It is an illness for the glory of God, to bring glory to the Son of God." John 11:4 (NCV)*

#### 3. TO \_\_\_\_\_

*"God has already appointed a time that each of us will die and then our lives will be judged by God." Hebrews 9:27*

*"This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us." 1 John 5:14 (NIV)*

### III. WHO CAN PRAY FOR HEALING? \_\_\_\_\_

*"...The earnest prayer of a believing person is powerful and effective! For example, Elijah was a human being just like us. Yet when he prayed earnestly... (miracles happened)." James 5:16-17*

*Jesus: "I tell you the truth, ANYONE who has FAITH IN ME will do what I've been doing. He will do even greater miracles than these, because I'm going to the Father. And I'll do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father." John 14:12-13 (NIV)*

### IV. HOW DO I PRAY FOR HEALING FOR MYSELF & OTHERS?

#### 1. MAKE SURE \_\_\_\_\_

*"CONFESS your faults to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed." James 5:16a*

#### 2. \_\_\_\_\_

*"You do not have, because you do not ask God." James 4:2b*

#### 3. \_\_\_\_\_

*"When you ask, you must believe and not doubt..." James 1:6*

