

Even If He Doesn't...

- Reaching your destiny will come with pains and struggles along the way.
- The gospel doesn't promise ease; it promises eternity.
- ✓ Matthew 16:24 (NIV) "Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.'"
- ✓ In 1 Kings 20: The enemy believed Yahweh was only the God of the hills, not the valleys. So they said, "Let's fight the Israelites in the valley—then we'll defeat them there. Their God is only strong in the hills, they said. "If we fight the Israelites in the valley, we'll have the advantage and win."
- ✓ Psalm 23:4 (KJV) "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me."
- It's easy to worship on the mountaintop — that's why the enemy tries to bring the battle to the valley.
- Comfort has crept into the church.
- ✓ Remember before there's a crown there is always a cross!
- Too often we think discomfort is not of God...but often, discomfort is divine.
- ✓ Acts 1:8 "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."
- Think about "Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego"
- ✓ Daniel 3:17–18 (NIV) 17 "If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to deliver us from it, and he will deliver us from Your Majesty's hand. 18 But even if he does not, we want you to know, Your Majesty, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up."
- Even if He doesn't.....Even if it doesn't get better for you, we will still NOT bow! We will still stand strong!
- So often we see "HARD" as a hindrance, but often it's His hammer to break you open to pour His self into you.
- ✓ Galatians 4:19 (ESV) "My little children, for whom I am again in the anguish of childbirth until Christ is formed in you!"
- ✓ God is not trying to destroy you; He is trying to develop you!

- Pictures used to be taken from a camera's and then they would print out on the Negatives.
- ✓ The Negatives: Reduced to the least common, minimized, and dark image of you.
- ✓ You would need to take Th Negatives to get developed....then you would get The Picture!
- God is not trying to destroy you; He is "Developing You"!
- The problem is that we get stuck in the in-between!
- ✓ Not every fire is from hell; some are from heaven. Stop Fighting what God is Refining.
- ✓ King Nebuchadnezzar's said from Daniel 3:24-25 "Wait—didn't we throw three men into the fire? But look—I see four men, walking around unhurt! And the fourth looks like a son of the gods!"
- ✓ Malachi 3:3 (NIV) "He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; he will purify the Levites and refine them like gold and silver. Then the Lord will have men who will bring offerings in righteousness."
- Refine you like silver!
- A silversmith knows when it's refined when "He can see his reflection in the silver!"
- Everything we are going through we question, but we will come out better...looking like HIM becoming more like HIM!
- ✓ 2 Corinthians 3:18 (NIV) "And we all... are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit."
- ✓ Job 13:15 (NIV) "Though he slay me, yet I will hope in him; I will surely defend my ways to his face."
- ✓ Though He is developing me, I'm still going to trust, magnify and praise Him. Job still praised Him!
- Think about your own life. If the report doesn't look good, if the marriage continues to be rough...I will still praise Him
- If we resent the process we abort the purpose.
- The moment you decide to stand when everything in you wants to quit...that's when God builds something eternal.
- Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego stood strong when everything in them wanted to quit. God is building something inside your life! Even if He doesn't, don't quit!