

Three Ways to Stay Faithful By Trey Sullins

Our world is full of lists. All throughout books and the internet you find numerous lists on just about everything. With a quick search I found fifty cute puppy pictures, seven steps to build wealth money, or fifty quick recipes just to name a few. Using a simple list format is often an easy way for our brains to remember and organize the information we receive. Its no surprise that in 1 Peter 6:6-11 we find a list which tells us how to be faithful. No matter how cute those puppies are or how delicious those recipes might be, the lists in the word of God are far better than anything we can come up with.

The first step in verse six and seven is to trust in God completely. In order to trust in God, we have to “humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God” (1 Peter 5:6). Pride can be a very dangerous thing because it makes us think that we are greater than we really are. This can then lead to all kinds of problems in our lives. Instead, a humble mind will cause us to seek after God and His will. We must also cast our cares upon Him” (1 Peter 5:7). An excellent example of this is in Psalm 56:3-4 “Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in You. In God (I will praise His word), In God I have put my trust; I will not fear. What can flesh do to me?” David understood to be faithful is to wholly trust in God.

The second step is to resist the devil. First Peter 5:8 reveals a frightening image of our adversary. He is a roaring lion, on the prowl, and waiting to destroy whatever he finds. In real life we would never imagine taking on a lion! But thankfully in our spiritual battle and with God on our side, we have the power and ability to resist this great enemy. There is an old video out there of two Africans from a certain tribe chasing after two cheetahs. The Africans were equipped only with small coverings around their waist and sticks in their hands; with the proper knowledge, techniques, and courage they were able to scare off the cheetahs and take their fresh animal kill! In our spiritual warfare, God has given us the proper knowledge, techniques, and courage to resist the wicked one.

The third step is to look forward to the blessings of the Lord. The blessings of God are a powerful motivator which ought to propel us into proper service to Him. First Peter 5:10 says, “may the God of all grace...Perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you.” The word used for “perfect” carries the idea of restoration. “Establish” means to make strong, support, or place firmly. “Strengthen” means to firm up or cause something to stand firm. “Settle” means to make give a foundation or make stable. These blessings here are not all the things which God has promised to us; however, they certainly are some amazing things. Life is rough and rocky sometimes, but God’s blessings will keep up standing tall and strong no matter what happens. Remember His blessings will keep us faithful to Him for life!

The Bible is a wealth of knowledge and the power of God to salvation. There are so many more encouraging lists just like this all throughout its pages. All we have to do is study to find them, and then be faithful to God by obeying them! When we do these things then we will certainly meet our Father in that “eternal glory” and be with Him for eternity. No list made by any person can do that. Sorry puppies, you are not that cute!