

Flourishing in the Rain 4

Flourishing even when you are Stressed to your limits

How to charge through quitting points when you are stressed to your limits and reap harvest of blessings

Increasing the Rain of His Blessings and Miracles

Att more imp't than keys or laws

Key - be **grateful** and **thankful** – what have

Many don't realise – **reason** not **happy** – simply – **train** mind – **don't** have, only see – what's **wrong**

One of the **greatest** miracle

– raise L – dead 4 days – simple thankful prayer – I thank you - heard

Be thankful for what you already have - **multiplying** power – **enjoy**

Aram sent a great army

with many chariots and horses to surround the city.

Strong force raised – against Elisha

Here - outnumbered 10,000 to one – vict

15 When the servant of the man of God got up early the next morning and went outside, there were troops, horses, and chariots everywhere.

"Ah, my lord, what will we do now?" he cried out to Elisha.

NLT

Elisha prayed – open their eyes!

You may have 101 things against you – but with God – you are always a majority

Develop the **habit** of **seeing** what is **right**, not what is wrong.

husb – wife – bros – staff – country

How to Flourish in the rain even when stressed to your limits

Many things in life – **tired** – **weary**:

Studies - **make business grow** – no good breaks for months – **worked hard** - **office** – not noticed no inc

Tired of deal **sickness**

Tired of building – **rel** - **raising** diff child – waiting **life partner**

During **Iraq war** – how many heard – congress – interviewed **4 star** – how doing – key prob

Not – **no \$**, **fire power**, **loyalty**

Tired – **weary** - never thot - war go that long – start **excited**

– but battle go on and on – fatigue sets in

What do you do – battle **last longer** than **expected**

– **prayed** – believed – done what supposed to

– **waited** – waited - lost hope - passion
Cancer patient - 6 months chemo – found – ano 6 months

Tired – don't think can do this

Faced this **man** for last 62 years – can't take ano moment

Way to vict – charge thru quitting points

Gal 6:9

9 And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart. NKJV

9 So don't get tired of doing what is good. Don't get discouraged and give up, for we will reap a harvest of blessing at the appropriate time. NLT

Weariness – not sp – but phy and emo – effect your destiny

Don't – disc choice – if dis - chosen

I. Do not be weary in doing what is right

Ex 6:6-9

6 "Therefore, say to the Israelites: 'I am the LORD, and I will bring you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians. I will free you from being slaves to them, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with mighty acts of judgment. 7 I will take you as my own people, and I will be your God. Then you will know that I am the LORD your God, who brought you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians. 8 And I will bring you to the land I swore with uplifted hand to give to Abraham, to Isaac and to Jacob. I will give it to you as a possession. I am the LORD.'"

9 Moses reported this to the Israelites, but they did not listen to him because of their discouragement and cruel bondage. NIV

Can und why – would not listen

400 yrs of slavery – 10 gen

Weariness leads to discouragement

Lost courage, confi, heart, passion, give up

What happened when you allow negative feelings to set in and control you life?

Allow the feelings – **set in** – **control you** - **rob**

* **Made** decision – based on feeling – what see – instead of what you know

* **See** only prob – not possibilities

* Complain murmur

Prob: More you **talk** – prob:

– tired - more tired

Learn to talk – not way you are – way you want to be

Don't deal - rob

This char repeated – later – 40 yrs – 20 days – give in - rob

In the desert – refused – enter – heard

giants – give in to weariness - rob

– just 20 days to victory – took them 40 yrs – none enter

How not to give up when you feel you can't even take one more day?

But I **don't** have strength – face – another month – not even **one** more day

– Jesus: you do have strength face it **today**
Matt 6:31-34

31 "So don't worry about having enough food or drink or clothing. 32 Why be like the pagans who are so deeply concerned about these things? Your heavenly Father already knows all your needs, 33 and he will give you all you need from day to day if you live for him and make the Kingdom of God your primary concern.

34 "So don't worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring its own worries. Today's trouble is enough for today. NLT

Heard story: **lady** - having raised kids – got them – college – looking forward

new season – free time – found out – raise grand son – love kids – but –

Can't **take** another 16 years

Heard Lord saying: can you take **today**

But – I don't think – had what it takes to raise kids – tomorrow

Not – asking – take care - ano 15 yrs – not even **tomorrow** – today

Will you take hold of strength today

What about tomorrow

- Come tomorrow – strength will be there

Depress – think about strength – tomorrow - next week, month, year

Keep you from **enjoying** life

Instead of worrying fut

Whatever God **ask** or **promise** you do – **business, dream house car, giving**

He provides you **day** by day – **step** by step
323 626 etc

Say – I **can** do it - **this day – this is**

2 Samuel 22:40

40 You have armed me with strength for the battle; you have subdued my enemies under my feet. NLT

Arm with **strength** for battle

– same power raise Jesus from the death –

this **study - child** diff – **medical** not gd

This child may be difficult – I can handle it

Medical not good – I can handle it

Boss – on nerve – can handle it

Crazy co-workers – no match for me

2. Expect great harvests in due season

Faint not – see harvests of blessings

Variety of **bamboo** – 4 years nothing

happen – 5th year spring to almost 100 ft

College degree in 4 years

Sometimes, **greatest** pressure – closest to vict - **sign**

Sign – stepping in new level

Woman – in labour – greatest pain – just bef baby come

If give up – suffer still birth

Unfair – more unfair if give up – gone too far to stop

Realise you have gone too far to quit

I have been **sacri so** much – **exactly** – sacri too much to give up now

Luke 5:18-19

18 Some men came carrying a paralyzed man on a bed, and they tried to carry him into the house and put him in front of Jesus. 19 Because of the crowd, however, they could find no way to take him in. TEV

What if the 4 men gave up?

Tired – wt of stretcher – walk hr after hr - just when think reach goal – cannot go in
Give up – **wasted** effort – missed greatest blessing – knowing Jesus – power to forgive

What are some of the key blessings when you are exhausted and stressed?

1. Stressed – more creative

Parking

Faint not – **reap**

Heard story – **diagnosed** with cancer – need immed operation

Day come to hosp – did all the preparation – told cannot – doc – personal emergency – delayed 1 week

Imagine – if in the situation – hustle – pain – put in all the tubes – anxieties waiting

Meanwhile – time to pray

A week later – couldn't find

Tamarine – chased by enemy soldiers – hide

Almost giving up – saw ants – seed many times its size and wt

69 times – made it – learn a lesson – never give up

Exp pressures – think **not normal**

2. Ever that – pressures – indicate right tract – sign

Sign – about to step into next level

Put it this way – if you don't feel like giving up – dreams are **too small**

need to set some larger goals

Still have blessings in imperf situation

Isaac – Joseph – Rahab - Daniel - Esther

– refuge – obj of hated – hostile enviro rose to no 2

– in land of famine (great recession)

dysfunctional family - Jacob - many wives snatched from home – concubine

Esther – despite of her suffering and humiliation – used by God to deliver a nation!

3. Instead of running – dev **self**

Prob – transport **COD** fish from North – south.

Freeze it – tasteless – huge tank – flesh bit too soft. Found – put in catfish – natural enemy

Edmund Hilary – first – conquer the Everest. 1st attempt – failed miserably – a team member died. Reports came – pointing to picture of Everest – bold proclaim – you may be big but not growing but one day I will conquer you – I am growing

Isa 40:28-31

28 Have you never heard or understood? Don't you know that the LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of all the earth? He never grows faint or weary. No one can measure the depths of his understanding. 29 He gives power to those who are tired and worn out; he offers strength to the weak. 30 Even youths will become exhausted, and young men will give up. 31 But those who wait on the LORD will find new strength. They will fly high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint. NLT

Wait – hope –

Not sit – **complacent** – **complaining**
murmuring

Wait with **hope** - expectation – him to **turn** around

Father – thank you – fighting our battles – bigger than obstacles

Talk about his **greatness**

– **vict on the way**

– go thru day – expecting him – turn around

- **put on wings on eagles**

Not weary – not on ground

Pass the weariness test – payday coming

End set – matter of time God turn around