

Positive Faith in Negative Times

Jude 17-25

17 But, beloved, remember ye the words which were spoken before of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ;

18 How that they told you there should be mockers in the last time, who should walk after their own ungodly lusts.

19 These be they who separate themselves, sensual, having not the Spirit.

20 But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,

21 Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

22 And of some have compassion, making a difference:

23 And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.

24 Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,

25 To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and for ever. Amen.

Positive gloss - A positive spin on a bad situation, an interpretation of something unpleasant or unfavorable that is intended to make people see it in a good, rather than a bad light, sought to put a positive gloss on an increasingly difficult situation. Like Romans 8:28, which reads, "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

Optimism is a powerful tool in Christian duty and service. Develop these 12 characteristics and you will harness it.

1 - Expect trouble. See yourself as a realistic problem solver. Explore all the options, and seek the good in bad situations. Hope always gives you better options.

2 - Look for realistic solutions, and work to solve manageable portions of problems. Risk working on what is possible, and leave the impossible to God.

3 - Believe through God that you control future feelings of helplessness. Realize early that your efforts can overcome adversity and negative situations.

4 - Allow time for regular renewal. Spend time with positive people and intellectually stimulating materials so you can refresh your spirit and inner man.

5 - Derail your negative thought train. Monitor the appraisals and acceptances to negative and derelict attitudes and reactions. Block out all distortions.

6 - Heighten your appreciation level toward everyone. Learn to be grateful and to say thank you often.

7 - Visualize success scenarios. Picture the best happening before you begin. Absolutely refuse to worry and insist on being hopeful.

8 - Be content and laugh often. Celebrate even during hard times.

9 - See your capacity for stretching as virtually unlimited. Your personal best is yet to come, and troubles are opportunity's for conditioning. Always be open to learn despite your age.

10 - Build lots of like into your life for everybody. Nurture the long term relationships and never take them for granite. Spend much time serving others with no motive except the serving. Deal effectively and quickly with hostility, anger and other negative emotions. Forgive others and yourself frequently.

11 - Share good news. Take the time to encourage and relate to others. Evaluate your successes so you will be sure to repeat them. Avoid complaining and do not stay depressed. Remember the good.

12 - Accept what you cannot change. Keep trying to do your best, but know when to cut your losses. Realize you cannot change the world all at once. Be flexible and remember you can change any situation by changing yourself.