Romans 5:1-5
Glory in Tribulation

Welcome back and here we go! Today we continue in the book of Romans, and we are taking on having a positive mental attitude in the midst of trials. So far in Romas we have covered our sinfulness, and God's answer to our faith in His love for us, our justification, and that is where we start again today ------- knowing that we can have peace by choice by living into this faith ------- which then can bring us stability in our trials.

Romans 5:1-5

1) What stands out to you?

Verse 2 states that we have access to grace by faith. So, obviously the understanding of grace is needed to pull it all together --- this idea of being grateful for trials. Grace is God's operating principle and everything He does is through the lens of grace.

Ephesians 2:8-9

In fact, it is His efficacious grace that saved us.

Romans 5:3-4

2) Why should we glory in trials?

It seems counterintuitive to be grateful, to even have joy in trials. When I think of trials I do not think of good times. Usually, it is the opposite and yet, the word of God repeats in many places this very concept so clearly. It is a way of thinking and not the feelings involved with the trials. Because our emotions can often be greater than our reason.

James 1:2-7

Here again the idea is gratitude for trials and it is coupled again with faith and even an invitation to ask God for clarity in the trials.

3) How have you grown through trials in the past?

One of the ideas or concepts I talk about here is "ancient landmarks". The Israelites often used

landmarks and altars made of stone to remember victories and places where God revealed Himself. In our lives, we have landmarks so-to-speak, that remind us not only of what has He has done, but what He can do in the future!

4) How are you managing your current trials or your most recent trial?

II Corinthians 4:7-18

If we can truly understand that our trials are meant to make us better, how much more so, if our mental attitude is of gratitude and not of despair.

Romans 5:3-4

5) How do trials create character in us?

You know it goes both way, depending on mental attitude. Frequently trials create ------ despair ------ fear ------- anger ------- bitterness ------- worry ------- anxiety ------- STRESS.

Yet our scripture today says in ***Romans 5:5*** they should create hope! Hope that doesn't disappoint!

So, today and in the future how can you have a positive mental attitude in the midst of your trials?

Hebrews 12:1-4

I am not saying sin is the cause of your trials. Although many times it is. What I <u>am</u> saying is not having faith and confidence in God through trials IS. It is the equivalent of saying "I do not trust you". "I don't deserve this". "I am alone". "You can't help me".

In our James passage we were instructed to ask for wisdom. So today we will close with a prayer for understanding of our trials and for faith.

Romans 5:5

6) What does it mean *"Hope does not disappoint"?*

Titus 2:11-15

Jesus / God / the Holy Spirit will never let you down!

Romans 5:1-1

Next week: "The Much More Love of God".