

# ***Mirror, Mirror: Steadfast Endurers***

*Session 6 by Sonny Bowman*

*Slide Notes*

## ***Bicycle Ride...***

### **A Deeper Reason**

- At this point many of his disciples turned away and deserted him. Then Jesus turned to the Twelve and asked, “Are you going to leave, too?” Simon Peter replied, “Lord, to whom would we go? You alone have the words that give eternal life.” John 6:66-68 [NLT]

## **Mirror, Mirror... Steadfast Endurers**

### **Receiving the Promise**

- But recall the former days in which, after you were illuminated, you endured a great struggle with sufferings ... Therefore do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward. For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise: – Hebrews 10:32-35

### **Weary & Discouraged**

- And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart. – Galatians 6:9
- For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls. Hebrews 12:3

### **Handling Hard Times**

- These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world. – John 16:33
- Don't be surprised
- But don't be discouraged
- Jesus is still Lord!

### **It's Not in Vain**

- But thanks *be* to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.  
– 1 Corinthians 15:57-58

## **Developing Steadfast Endurance**

### **Faith & Trust in God**

- For bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, ...
- having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come. ...

- This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance. For to this end we both labor and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God... – 1 Timothy 4:8-10

## Build a Strong Foundation

- Anyone who listens to my teaching and obeys me is wise, like a person who builds a house on solid rock. Though the rain comes in torrents and the floodwaters rise and the winds beat against that house, it won't collapse, because it is built on rock. – Matthew 7:24-25

## Actively Pursue God's Goal

- Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing *I do*, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. – Philippians 3:13-14

## Patience with Firm Heart

- Therefore be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. See *how* the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, waiting patiently for it until it receives the early and latter rain. You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. – James 5:7-8
- Keep your heart with all diligence, For out of it *spring* the issues of life. – Proverbs 4:23

## Faithful in Little Things

- He who *is* faithful in *what is* least is faithful also in much; and he who is unjust in *what is* least is unjust also in much. Therefore if you have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true *riches*? – Luke 16:10-11

## Eyes on Jesus

- Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares *us*, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith... – Hebrews 12:1-2

## Prepare, then Stand

- For we are not fighting against people made of flesh and blood, but against the evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against those mighty powers of darkness who rule this world, and against wicked spirits in the heavenly realms. Use every piece of God's armor to resist the enemy in the time of evil, so that after the battle you will still be standing firm. Stand your ground... – Ephesians 6:12-14 (NLT)

## Help Others

- Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. Galatians 6:2
- Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing. – 1 Thessalonians 5:11

## Do It with Help!

- Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be

content... Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. Nevertheless you have done well that you shared in my distress. – Philippians 4:11-14

## **Never Give Up!**

- But this precious treasure ... is held in perishable containers, that is, in our weak bodies. So everyone can see that our glorious power is from God and is not our own. We are pressed on every side by troubles, but we are not crushed and broken. We are perplexed, but we don't give up and quit. We are hunted down, but God never abandons us. ...
- We get knocked down, but we get up again and keep going. ... We know that the same God who raised our Lord Jesus will also raise us with Jesus and present us to himself along with you. ... and God will receive more and more glory. That is why we never give up. Though our bodies are dying, our spirits are being renewed every day. ...
- For our present troubles are quite small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us an immeasurably great glory that will last forever! So we don't look at the troubles we can see right now; rather, we look forward to what we have not yet seen. For the troubles we see will soon be over, but the joys to come will last forever. – 2 Corinthians 4:7-18 (NLT)

## **Are you sitting along the road, weary and discouraged?**