

The Christ Confirmed Truth

Do you have peace and love in your life today? If you do, I can guarantee that it's because at some point you made a decision to choose love over fear. You were faced with a very difficult decision, perhaps one of the hardest decisions you've ever had to make, and you made the right choice. As difficult as it was, you let go of something in order to gain something better. The thing that made it so hard was that you didn't know what that "*something better*" would be. You simply trusted that Christ would affirm his promise.

We all have choices in life and we can't avoid making them. The thing is, the more you grow the harder those choices become. As we gain more knowledge of the Word, some decisions will require us to step up our game. We'll have to recognize that in order to move forward, we must demonstrate that we've gained more courage and confidence in Christ.

We can love a thing or a person so much sometimes that we don't believe we can let go of it, even when we know that loving the thing or person harms our relationship with God. The plain ol' truth about life is that very often times we have to do what we're most afraid to do. You will go through tribulations that can seem insurmountable, and you may become discouraged and doubt your own strength and ability, but you must never doubt the power of Christ that lies within you. You must never doubt what he can and will work out within your soul.

Jesus Christ said in John 14:15-17(MSG) *"If you love me, show it by doing what I've told you. I will talk to the Father, and he'll provide you another Friend so that you will always have someone with you. This Friend is the Spirit of Truth. The godless world can't take him in because it doesn't have eyes to see him, doesn't know what to look for. But you know him already because he has been staying with you, and will even be in you!"*

This is a beautiful truth, but sometimes we forget it. We forget that the real jewel—the jewel that we should value more than any other thing in this world—is the Spirit of Truth on the inside. Whatever you desire but don't have at the moment—it doesn't come close to your spiritual treasure in Christ. God wants you to grow in that treasure. He wants you to learn how to walk with Him daily, without selfish motives or agendas.

Jesus Christ goes on to say in John 14:25-26 (MSG), *"I'm telling you these things while I'm still living with you. The Friend, the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send at my request, will make everything plain to you. He will remind you of all the things I have told you. I'm leaving you well and whole."* This is a tremendous comfort. You might feel as though you are totally losing it. You might feel like the foundation has been yanked right from under your feet, but sometimes there's

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a message in a whirlwind of problems, confusion, and pain. Very often times the Spirit of Truth will remind us through these things that we're too caught up in what's happening on the outside, and not paying enough attention to what's on the inside.

No matter what you're going through in your life today, don't doubt the courage and strength you have within to always choose God's way. And don't doubt that choosing His way is exactly what you need to follow the path of growth and blessings. When you put God first and stand for His truth amidst tribulations and strife, you are building spiritual capacity and character. You are proving that no matter what may come in life, you have an inside strength that will enable you to run this race with joy and power.

The ability to stand confidently in the strength of Christ....this is a mark of a committed believer. Know that you have what it takes to stand firm in the truth and against anything that comes against you. This is what Christ wanted us to know concretely. Look at what he says in John 14:29-31:

John 14:29-31 (MSG)

29-31 "I've told you this ahead of time, before it happens, so that when it does happen, the confirmation will deepen your belief in me. I'll not be talking with you much more like this because the chief of this godless world is about to attack. But don't worry—he has nothing on me, no claim on me. But so the world might know how thoroughly I love the Father, I am carrying out my Father's instructions right down to the last detail.

Jesus Christ forewarned the disciples of the troubles in the world. He told them because he knew that the confirmation would deepen their belief in him and aid their relationship with the Father. He gave the disciples real talk, not sugarcoated. Christ confirmed the truth! He laid it before us and said this is how it's going to be, *"declaring your love for me will land you in hot water, but this same love will cool it down."*

So our charge today is to stay alert. Walk in wisdom and stay powerful and prayerful. Be careful how you live and be careful of the decisions you make. Own your status as a child of light—this is who you are. Things will get a little rocky, but knowing that ought to deepen our faith, not lessen it. We ought to be 100% confident that he made a way for us to navigate through the struggles and strife of life. We may be bruised, but we will absolutely make it through. If you trust in him you'll always land on your feet. Stand strong!

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