Promise: If You Remain Steadfast Under Trial, You Will Be Rewarded

MAIN IDEAS

- Looking to the reward helps us to remain steadfast in trial.
- God promises eternal life to those who love Him and remain steadfast in faith.
- God gives His children strength in weakness when they depend on Him.

MEMORY VERSE

Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him.—James 1:12

SCRIPTURE

- 1) 2 Corinthians 11:24-28
- 2) 2 Corinthians 11:32-33
- 3) 2 Corinthians 12:9-10
- 4) James 1:12



LESSON SUMMARY

We all have problems—some big and some little. But each one can either be a threat to our faith, or an opportunity to build spiritual muscle. Rather than entertain the lies of the enemy and doubt God's goodness, God has given us an incentive to remain steadfast. Looking to the promised reward of eternal life—focusing on the future blessing rather than the present circumstances—can provide the determination to remain steadfast. The trials we face here are so insignificant compared to the glory to come! Stand stubbornly unmovable in the face of difficulties because the crown of life is our promised reward!

Just as Paul did not have the strength to endure suffering alone, neither do we. Our weakness is very real. But God doesn't ask us to stand alone. He offers His strength in our weakness. The grace He provides when we are tempted to give up and give in to discouragement or unbelief will keep us standing firm. He is our sufficiency when we depend on Him.

Pray that God will give you a "heavenly perspective" in the face of difficulties this week, a joy in anticipating the promised reward, and His strength in your weakness. Ask God to give your child an understanding of his or her weakness and need for Him. Pray that your son or daughter would have a holy imagination that would draw his or her heart to desire a heavenly inheritance.

AS YOU WALK BY THE WAY

• Share with your son or daughter about a time when you faced difficulty and how God gave you strength to remain steadfast in faith. *What is hard for you? How does Satan want you to think about that?* [Help your child to see the lies that Satan wants us to believe about God, our situation, and ourselves.] *What does God want you to think about that? How can you fight the fight of faith to believe in God's wisdom and His goodness?*



Growing in Faith Together

• What do you imagine that heaven is like? What will be different about heaven than about being here on earth? What do you think it will be like to be with God? What would you like to talk to Him about? Why is it important to fight for faith? What is worth more than the reward of eternal life in heaven?

ACTIVITY

Read the memory verse and explain it to your mom or dad. Then color the letters of the verse. Keep working at your coloring and don't give up! Maybe Mom or Dad will give you a reward for finishing ⁽³⁾

James 1:12—Blessed is the man who remains steadiast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him.

