

Directions pt 1

Because we're not there yet...

October 23, 2011 Pastor Ron

"Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all he does." James 1:1-8

First Commitment: Persevere with JOY

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!" Philippians 4:4

Trials of many kinds:

- Depression, no joy in life
- Discontent, no meaning or purpose in life
- Angry, with yourself or the people around you
- Spiritual desert, just can't seem to connect with God
- Unexpected bills or just living above your means
- Abuse from a friend, parent, spouse
- Alcohol, out of control, indulgent
- Illness, health deteriorating for you or someone you love
- Marital strife, not on the same page, ready to give up
- Job stress or out of work

Second Commitment: WISE UP!

"for wisdom is more precious than rubies, and nothing you desire can compare with her." Proverbs 8:11

Third Commitment: Live with CONVICTION

"Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children." Ephesians 5:1

"Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross..." Hebrews 12:2