

The Connection

Messages of Hope



HOPE
CHURCH | RALEIGH
WORSHIP. GROW. SERVE.

A Weekly Online Newsletter: Edition 833

April 30, 2025

“Perseverance in the Spiritual Disciplines”

Using the Bible as the sole source of reference, **perseverance in the development and use of spiritual disciplines** is portrayed as essential to the life of a believer. Scripture consistently encourages steadfastness in practices such as prayer, meditation on the Word, fasting, worship, and obedience—disciplines that nurture spiritual maturity and intimacy with God. Below are key biblical passages and themes that illustrate this concept:

1. Perseverance as a Command and Virtue

- **Hebrews 12:1-2 (ESV):**
“Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith...”
This verse likens the Christian life to a race that demands **endurance** (perseverance). Spiritual disciplines are part of the training that enables one to run faithfully.
- **James 1:4:**
“And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.”
Spiritual growth is the result of enduring in discipline and trial; it leads to completeness in character.

2. Daily Commitment to Spiritual Practices

- **Luke 9:23:**
“If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.”
The idea of **daily** self-denial points to the regular, persevering practice of spiritual disciplines like prayer, fasting, and obedience.

- **Acts 2:42:**
“And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.”
The early church **devoted themselves**—with persistence—to key disciplines. This wasn’t a one-time act but a continual effort.

3. Perseverance in Prayer

- **Luke 18:1:**
“And he told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart.”
Jesus taught that **persistent prayer** is necessary, even when immediate results are not seen.
- **1 Thessalonians 5:17:**
“Pray without ceasing.”
This continual call to prayer implies perseverance and constancy in spiritual discipline.

HOPE Calendar

Wednesday, April 30
Supper, Study and Prayer
Supper @ 6pm
Bible Study @ 7pm
Prayer @ 7:45

Thursday, May 1
Worship Team Rehearsal @ 7:00

Sunday, May 4
Worship Team Run Through
@ 8:00 a.m.

Wednesday, May 7
Supper, Study and Prayer
Supper @ 6pm
Bible Study @ 7pm
Prayer @ 7:45

Thursday, May 8
Worship Team Rehearsal @ 7:00

**Helping Hands for
May 4, 2024**

**ProPresenter
Dianne Reinoso
Soundboard**

**Live Streaming
Franklin Johnston
Communion
Lynn Joyner
Greeter**

**Scripture Text and Sermon
This Coming Sunday**

"HE GAVE GIFTS"

**EPHESIANS 4: 11-16
ROMANS 11:29**

Prophecies O.T.		N.T.	
Revealed....			
Apr	27	Rev	2:27
Apr	28	Ps	2:12
Apr	29	John	20:31
Apr	30	Ps	8:2
May	1	Matt	21:16
May	2	Ps	8:5-6

GROW

Women of HOPE

5/3/25 @ 10am @ HOPE

**"Why do you call one day
good and another day
bad?"**

**Women of HOPE
Meetings generally at HOPE on
the second and fourth**

**Saturdays
every month**

**"Food of the Month"
for the Raleigh Dream Center
Food Pantry
Boxed Cereal
We have a collection bin in the foyer**

**HOPE Meal Ministry
Take a meal from the freezer if
needed for you or someone else.**

SERVE

**TLC Devotion
April 30, 2025
@ 11:00 a.m.
5124 Departure Dr # 101, Raleigh**

**"For the spirit God gave us
does not make us timid but
gives us power, love, and self-
discipline."**

Prayer Requests:

Shelley Riggelman (Bruce), Ron Clifton,
Janice Worthington, Donna Williams, Dale
H., Jerry & Alice K., Burton(Erin), The
Branch's, Phil Parton, Krishana, HOPE
Vision Team, God's peace in the USA, Dave
Rendall, Gene & Becky Hale, Sam and
Rachael, Joan Rollinson, Will Floyd's
Fiancé's Mother: Jennifer, Dianne Reinoso,
Cindy (Elizabeth), Nancy Hutchins (Positive
Cancer), Pastor Search Committee,
Barbara(81) Stroke, Joey(18) Crohn's, Ebo
(Glioblastoma #3/4)-family has 4 children,
Youth Ministry, Kathy Jo and her family,
Peggy Karpenske, Claudia in Idaho (Kathy
H), Patty Moyer's son Brandon, Dave & Dot
Geil, Corbin Broome, The Mallory family,
Carol & Colin (Kathy H), Loretta (Sandi U),
Joan Summers,, Jordan Stevens (Lynn J.),
our Military, Police, Fire, and EMS.

**"For bodily discipline is only of
little profit, but godliness is
profitable for all things since it
holds the promise for the present
life and also for the life to come."
1 Timothy 4:8**

**UPCOMING
WOMEN OF HOPE
Saturdays at 10 a.m. at HOPE**

**5/3/25
"Why do you call one day
good and another day
bad?"**

**HOPE Church Raleigh
An Evangelical Presbyterian Church
4911 Green Rd
Raleigh, NC 27616
919-508-6827
Worship Time: 9:30 AM

www.HopeChurchRaleigh.org
www.facebook.com/HOPEChurchRaleigh
Twitter: @HopeChRaleigh
YouTube.com (type "HOPE Church Raleigh"
in the search box)**

4. The Word of God as a Source of Strength

- **Psalm 1:2-3:**

“But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night... In all that he does, he prospers.”

The person who **regularly meditates** on God’s Word, with perseverance, is spiritually nourished and fruitful.

- **2 Timothy 3:16-17:**

“All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness...”

Persevering in the use of Scripture equips believers for every good work.

5. Trials Develop Perseverance and Maturity

- **Romans 5:3-4:**

“Suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope.”

Spiritual disciplines, especially in hardship, train the believer in perseverance, which shapes a Christlike character.

Summary

In the Bible, perseverance is not only **encouraged** but **commanded** as part of a faithful spiritual life. The development and continued use of spiritual disciplines require **ongoing commitment**, **daily effort**, and **dependence on God’s strength**. Through prayer, meditation, study, and obedience, believers are formed into the image of Christ, equipped for godly living, and sustained in hope.