

Melva's Corner

IT'S NOT ALWAYS EASY!

Tapping the Source of Power

Central Truth: Grace ensures that we will find it less difficult to travel forward as the Holy Spirit empowers us to cover the distance.

"Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits at God's right hand in the place of honor and power." (Colossians 3:1 NLT)

Life as an adult is not always easy. You have to be responsible. You have a job to do. You can't mess up because so many people are depending upon you. But sometimes you do mess up. Sometimes you do blow it. Sometimes you do get tired and want to quit. Sometimes you are tempted.

Sometimes . . . you do need to be able to daydream and for just an instant, you do need to believe that you are actually going to be a part of something really important, something glorious, because your life really matters.

When Jesus was beginning His ministry, He selected a small group of men and challenged them to take one step: "Follow me." They did. The world was changed. Our faith walk begins with a step of faith: "I believe." We are not sure what all is involved or what it means, but we are willing to take that small step in faith. Without that small step, nothing changes.

Are you facing a crossroad in your life? Are you wondering if the dream you have is possible, if it is worth the effort, if you even want to continue the pursuit? Are you wanting to see change, but its happening too slow? Remember: A small step is still a step.

Grace ensures that we will find it less difficult to travel forward as the Spirit empowers us to cover the distance. Let's never settle for simply staying put. Complacency is too hard. Staying put is too dangerous. It's not what we were made to do! We

were made to stay on the climb and experience the transformation of the Spirit. So get in gear, call on God to release the power of the Spirit, and set your sights on the Creator! There may be a lurch or two along the way, but the way is sure and the destination is certain!

“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily hinders our progress. And let us run with endurance the race that God has set before us. We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, on whom our faith depends from start to finish.” (Hebrews 12:1-2 NLT)

As you take each step keep an attitude of gratitude as your default setting. Make it a habit. That's what it is, habit: habitually seeing the kindness and grace and love of God where others cannot. Make sure your prayers are loaded with thankfulness. Develop the habit of gratitude to God in your conversations. Train your spirit to sense God's protective presence. Even in dark valleys, when you can't see Him or hear Him or feel Him, you know He's there. Thank Him for being with you even when your senses are too limited to recognize Him.

Remember, God longs to make us all that we can be! Our loving Father wants to help us avoid the damage in our lives that being out alignment can bring to ourselves and those we love. A small step is still a step. Don't give up. Take that step.

Scriptural References:

“So be humble under God's powerful hand. Then he will lift you up when the right time comes. Give all your worries to him, because he cares for you.” (1 Peter 5:6-7 ERV)