2 Timothy 4:7 “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith;”

KEEPING THE FAITH



Where the rubber meets the road

KEEPING THE FAITH!

- When my PAST torments me!

KEEPING THE FAITH!

- When my PAST torments me!
- When AFFLICTION plagues me!!

KEEPING THE FAITH!

- When my PAST torments me!
- When AFFLICTION plagues me!!
- When CONFLICT troubles me!!!

KEEPING THE FAITH!

Easier said than done??

KEEPING THE FAITH!

Easier said than done??

Who said it was going to be easy!!!

- Paul had a PAST to OVERCOME

- Paul had a PAST to OVERCOME

1 Corinthians 15:9 "For I am the least of the apostles, who am not fit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God."

- Paul had a PAST to OVERCOME
  - HOW DID Paul OVERCOME his PAST?

- Paul had a PAST to OVERCOME
  - HOW DID Paul OVERCOME his PAST?

    - Paul OWNED himself as an object of God's mercy!

- Paul had a PAST to OVERCOME
  - HOW DID Paul OVERCOME his PAST?

    - Paul OWNED himself as an object of God's MERCY!
    - Paul OWNED himself as a trophy of God's GRACE!!

- Paul had a PAST to OVERCOME
  - HOW DID Paul OVERCOME his PAST?

    - Paul OWNED himself as an object of God's MERCY!
    - Paul OWNED himself as a trophy of God's GRACE!!
    - Paul LEARNED from his past so to be more VIGILANT for God in the present!!!

How do we OVERCOME our PAST?

Learn from the past..Live not in the past!

How do we OVERCOME our PAST?

Learn from the past..Live not in the past!

Easier said than done??

How do we OVERCOME our PAST?

Learn from the past..Live not in the past!

Easier said than done??

Who said it was going to be easy!!!

How do we OVERCOME our PAST?

Philippians 3:13b-14 Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of *it yet; but one thing I do: <u>forgetting</u> what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead, [14] I <u>press on</u> toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.*

❖ Paul had an AFFLICTION to OVERCOME

2 Corinthians 12:7 "And because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, for this reason, to keep me from exalting myself, there was given me a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to buffet me-- to keep me from exalting myself!"

- Paul had an AFFLICTION to OVERCOME
  - HOW DID Paul OVERCOME his AFFLICTION?

- Paul had an AFFLICTION to OVERCOME
  - HOW DID Paul OVERCOME his AFFLICTION?

  - Paul OWNED his AFFLICTION as God's EMPOWERING!

- Paul had an AFFLICTION to OVERCOME
  - HOW DID Paul OVERCOME his AFFLICTION?

  - Paul OWNED his AFFLICTION as God's EMPOWERING!

2 Corinthians 12:9b "Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may dwell in me."

How do we OVERCOME AFFLICTION?

Own AFFLICTION as God's EMPOWERING!

How do we OVERCOME AFFLICTION?

Own AFFLICTION as God's EMPOWERING!

Easier said than done??

How do we OVERCOME AFFLICTION?

Own AFFLICTION as God's EMPOWERING!

Easier said than done??

Who said it was going to be easy!!!

How do we OVERCOME AFFLICTION?

2 Corinthians 4:16 "Therefore we do not lose heart, but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day. [17] For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison"

❖ Paul had CONFLICT to OVERCOME

2 Corinthians 1:8 "For we would not, brethren, have you ignorant of our trouble which came to us in Asia, that we were pressed out of measure, above strength, insomuch that we despaired even of life:"

- Paul had CONFLICT to OVERCOME
  - HOW DID Paul OVERCOME CONFLICT?

  - Paul WAGED WAR with God's WEAPONS!



- Paul had CONFLICT to OVERCOME
  - HOW DID Paul OVERCOME CONFLICT?

  - Paul spoke the TRUTH with LOVE!!



- Paul had CONFLICT to OVERCOME
  - HOW DID Paul OVERCOME CONFLICT?
    - Paul rested with God's APPRAISAL!!!

1 Corinthians 4:2-4 "In this case, moreover, it is required of stewards that one be found trustworthy. [3] But to me it is a very small thing that I should be examined by you, or by *any human court; in fact, I do not even examine myself. [4] For I am conscious of nothing against myself, yet I am not by this acquitted; but the one who examines me is the Lord."*

How do we OVERCOME CONFLICT?

Own our Service and our Sonship!





How do we OVERCOME CONFLICT?

Rest in God's APPRAISAL!!

- How do we OVERCOME a painful PAST?
  - Learn from the past..Live not in the past
- How do we OVERCOME AFFLICTION?
  - Own AFFLICTION as God's EMPOWERING
- How do we OVERCOME CONFLICT?
  - Own our Service and our Sonship
  - Rest in God's APPRAISAL

Easier said than done?

Easier said than done?

Who said it was going to be easy!!

Philippians 4:13 “I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.”