FACING STRUGGLES IN LIFE

Imagine for a moment: losing your home, losing a spouse or child unexpectedly, or becoming so sick to the point of which you think you are about to die. What would your attitude be towards yourself? What would your attitude be towards others? What would you attitude be towards God? When you are faced with struggles, how will you deal with them?

In the book of Job, one can find answers when facing struggles in life. Job was a man who “was blameless and upright, and one who feared God and shunned evil” (Job 1:1). Job was blessed in having many sons and daughters. Job loved his family and cared for them greatly. He was considered to be very successful in life. However, Job lost everything he had. He lost his sons and daughters, he lost his possessions, and he was stricken with painful boils. Job’s reaction to this difficult and sorrowful situation was “in all this Job did not sin nor charge God with wrong” (Job 1:22).

Everyone is faced with struggles some point in their life. Losing a home, losing a spouse, losing a child, losing a job, or becoming deathly sick can happen to anyone (Matthew 5:45). Like Job, Christians should follow Job’s example in remaining faithful to God when facing struggles in life.

Job would not turn his back on God no matter how difficult the circumstance. How often do you hear of someone who takes their own life because they were faced with a difficult situation? This person often sees there is no way out, and it would be easier to end their life. Job’s wife encouraged him to “curse God, and die” (Job 2:9). She did not see a way out. Job’s response was “shall we indeed accept good from God, and shall we not accept adversity.” Job knew God would not leave him, if his trust and faithfulness were in God.

Job knew how important it was to fear God, keep his commandments, and not be overcome by evil. Because Job kept these things in mind, he was considered a blameless and upright man. When faced with trials and temptations in life, Christians ought to fear God and keep his commandments (Deuteronomy 6:2; 8:6; 13:4; Ecclesiastes 12:13). Christians must place God first in their lives (Matthew 22:37). If Christians fear God and keep His commandments, then they will also strive to shun or stay away from evil (Romans 12:21).

Everyone will face struggles in life. Remember when facing struggles to ask God for help to over the trials in life (Philippians 4:6-7). Job prayed to God for his friends, and God blessed his abundantly (Job 42:10). Next time you are faced with a struggle, what will you do?