following Decause...



I love following Jesus because... He is a firm foundation in my life

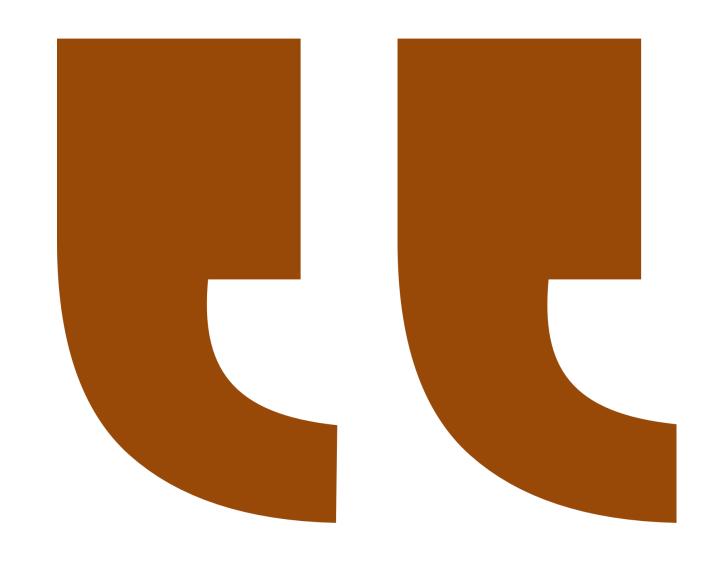
Overcoming fear is the first step in difficult situations

FOLLOWING JESUS BECAUSE...



The Lord is my light and my salvation— whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life— of whom shall I be afraid?





When we are going through difficult times our biggest enemy is FEAR!



I will extol the Lord at all times; his praise will always be on my lips. I will glory in the Lord; let the afflicted hear and rejoice.

Glorify the Lord with me; let us exalt his name together.





I sought the Lord, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears. Those who look to him are radiant; their faces are never covered with shame. This poor man called, and the Lord heard him; he saved him out of all his troubles.





There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love.





Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path.





Don't be afraid, for I am with you. Don't be discouraged, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will hold you up with my victorious right hand.





even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.

Community



Yet I am always with you; you hold me by my right hand.





He is before all things, and in him all things hold together



God can handle whatever I am facing

Overcoming fear is the first step in difficult situations

FOLLOWING JESUS BECAUSE...



When the wicked advance against me to devour me, it is my enemies and my foes who will stumble and fall.





Though an army besiege me, my heart will not fear; though war break out against me, even then I will be confident.





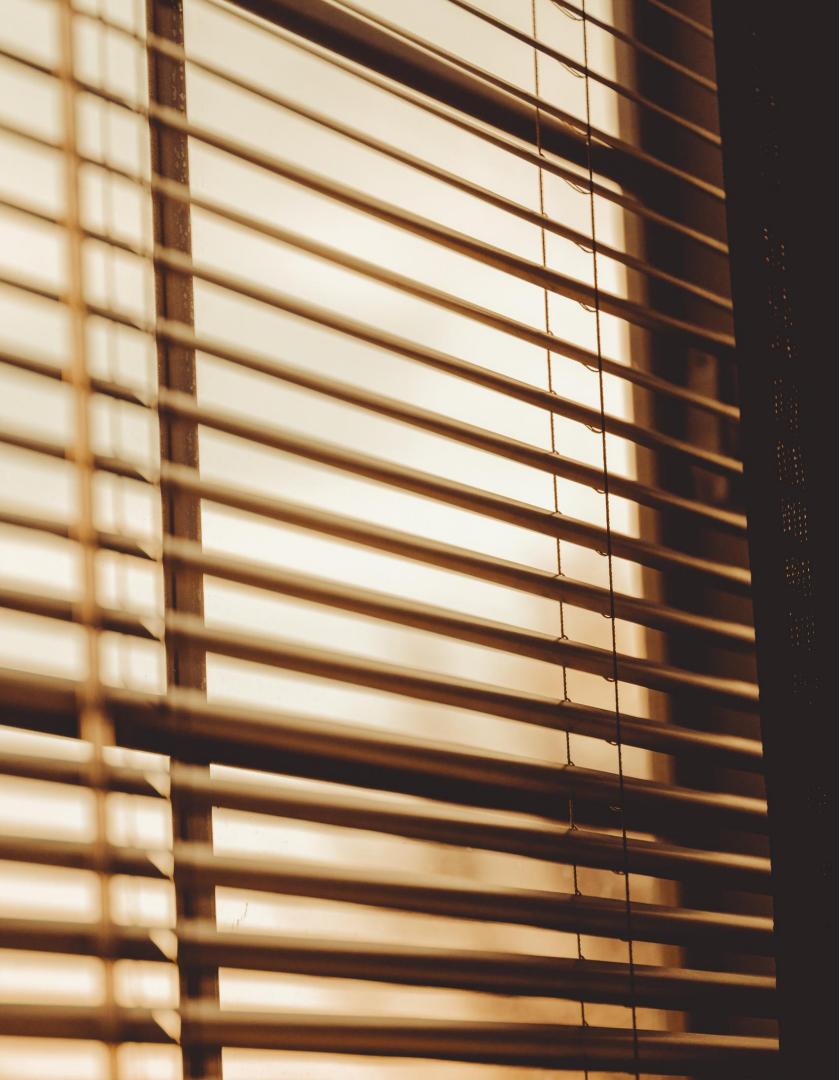
Though my father and mother forsake me, the Lord will receive me.





Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds,







We need to have a strategy of life, a strategy of dealing with fears and anxieties, that can stand up to anything.

Timothy Keller



One thing I ask from the Lord, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple.





For in the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling; he will hide me in the shelter of his sacred tent and set me high upon a rock.





Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.

Community



But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash."





Then my head will be exalted above the enemies who surround me; at his sacred tent I will sacrifice with shouts of joy; I will sing and make music to the Lord. Hear my voice when I call, Lord; be merciful to me and answer me. My heart says of you, "Seek his face!" Your face, Lord, I will seek.





Do not hide your face from me, do not turn your servant away in anger; you have been my helper. Do not reject me or forsake me, God my Savior.



Difficult circumstances can have a positive impact on my life

- Overcoming fear is the first step in difficult situations
- God can handle whatever I am facing

FOLLOWING JESUS BECAUSE...



Teach me your way, Lord; lead me in a straight path because of my oppressors.





Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God. For just as we share abundantly in the sufferings of Christ, so also our comfort abounds through Christ.



God IS good and I will experience it when I seek Him

- Overcoming fear is the first step in difficult situations
- God can handle whatever I am facing
- Difficult circumstances can have a positive impact on my life

I LOVE FOLLOWING JESUS BECAUSE...



I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.



- Overcoming fear is the first step in difficult situations
- God can handle whatever I am facing
- Difficult circumstances can have a positive impact on my life
- God IS good and I will experience it when I seek Him



Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.





Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me-put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.



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