

# **S**tretch *Surviving the Strenuous*

Discover practical faith insights to overcoming life's difficult challenges.

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## **Introduction**

The Apostle Paul teaches us how to stretch in Philippians 3:7-14. He was quite acquainted with struggles. 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

"Today, you're going to have problems."

Not many people really like to hear that they are going to have problems. As a Christian, you will go through tests overseen by our loving heavenly Father, so be prepared! Some situations will be seemingly easy, others very hard. What do you need to get through them successfully? This study will instruct you to stretch with God's strength and wisdom to successfully survive what you face in life and death.

## **Stretch One: God is ALWAYS in control.**

Text: Job 1:6-12; 42:2-3, 10

### I. Remembering What God Is \_\_\_\_\_

God is...

- A. \_\_\_\_\_ – Acts 3:14-15; Isaiah 6
- B. \_\_\_\_\_/Omnipotent – Psalm 135:6; Matthew 28:18
- C. \_\_\_\_\_ – Psalm 139:2; Col. 2:2-3
- D. \_\_\_\_\_ – Psalm 139:7-12
- E. \_\_\_\_\_ – 1 John 4:8; John 3:16
- F. \_\_\_\_\_ – Hebrews 13:8

Summary of point: God's ways are \_\_\_\_\_ our ways. – Isaiah 55:8

### II. God Guides Our Faith-Stretching: the Bible

The Bible...

- A. Reveals the Purposes of Our Struggles
  - 1. \_\_\_\_\_ Reasons
    - a. To \_\_\_\_\_ us – James 1:3
    - b. To \_\_\_\_\_ us – Psalm 139:23-24
  - 2. \_\_\_\_\_ Reasons
    - a. To be an \_\_\_\_\_ to others – Job, Paul, David, etc.

- b. To \_\_\_\_\_ God to others – John 9:3
  - c. To provide \_\_\_\_\_ and ministry to others – Genesis 50:20
  - d. To remind people to be careful in \_\_\_\_\_ others – Job 42:7; Matthew 7:1
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Reasons
- a. To \_\_\_\_\_ God – Revelation 4:11; Philippians 2:13
  - b. To get our \_\_\_\_\_ – Proverbs 3:11; Hebrews 12:5
  - c. To purge and \_\_\_\_\_ our lives – Psalm 51:7
- B. Provides \_\_\_\_\_ to Learn From (Good and Bad!)
- Jesus, Job, Adam & Eve, Moses, David, The Three Hebrew Children, Daniel, Peter, Paul, etc.
- C. Declares How To Be Successful
- 1. \_\_\_\_\_ to God – James 1:5-6; Philippians 4:6
  - 2. \_\_\_\_\_ God’s Word – Joshua 1:8; Psalm 1
  - 3. \_\_\_\_\_ God’s Will – Psalm 37:23; 119:105; Proverbs 3:5-6  
*Instead of asking “Why?” ask “How?”*
  - 4. \_\_\_\_\_ with God’s people – Romans 12:15; Hebrews 10:27
  - 5. \_\_\_\_\_ God – Daniel 2:26-28
  - 6. \_\_\_\_\_ God – Acts 16:25
- III. God Concludes Our Faith Stretching. Hebrews 12:2
- A. \_\_\_\_\_ is under God’s control – Job 1; 2; Revelation 20:1-3; 10
  - B. \_\_\_\_\_ are under God’s control – Job 1; 2; Psalm 135:6
  - C. \_\_\_\_\_ is under God’s control – 1 Peter 1:7; Hebrews 9:27
  - D. \_\_\_\_\_ and healing are under God’s control – 1 Kings 9:2-8; Matthew