

THINKING POSITIVE WHILE LIVING NEGATIVE

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Galatians 6:9

Many people lose their faith because they continue to think positive **WHILE EXPERIENCING** negative circumstances. This is the conflict the Apostle Paul grappled with. This is the conflict King Jesus grappled with. This is the conflict David grappled with.

This is the conflict many people grapple with today. It's easy to think positive. However, it is **DIFFICULT** to think positive **WHILE** living negative. For example, it is **DIFFICULT** to think about encouraging thoughts **WHILE** living a discouraging life.

It's difficult to be optimistic when you see your world falling apart. It's difficult to think about being healed when the doctor is constantly giving you a negative report. It's

difficult to think about living financially free when you are unemployed and broke.

What do you do when your mind is thinking one thing and your life is speaking another?

YOU WORK THROUGH IT!

I know this is not the answer you want to hear. However, it is the wisest answer that is applicable to this situation. Working through this conflict may present some challenges.

You **WILL** battle with unbelief, doubt, low self-esteem and maybe depression. Fighting negativity with positivity is a daunting task because you are **BELIEVING ONE THING WHILE SEEING ANOTHER.**

WALKING BY FAITH YET DISCOURAGED BY WHAT YOU SEE.

The Lord instructs us to walk by faith. However, the things you may see around you may instill your fear. When this happens stand on what you believe, **NOT** what you see. Your circumstances are mere **ILLUSIONS** of what is real. They are **NOT** permanent.

If you continue to work for what you **BELIEVE**, speak what you **BELIEVE** and pursue what you **BELIEVE** you will have what you **BELIEVE**. Galatians 6:9 says, "*And let us not be weary in well doing; for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.*" This is why you have to work through thinking positive while living negative.

The harvest doesn't come to the one who complains, quits, give-in or turn away. The harvest comes to the one who **ENDURES TO THE END**. Thinking positive gives you hope. It gives you energy. It gives you motivation.

People who follow what they believe and **NOT** the circumstances around them are the ones who will reap their harvest and inherit their promise land. Muhammad Ali, the iconic boxer, followed what he believed. He believed in speaking up for black people when it wasn't popular. His circumstances told him to do the opposite.

His circumstances told him that he would go through extreme persecution. His circumstances of racism, hatred and betrayal were discouraging. However, in spite of Muhammad Ali's circumstances he followed what he believed. By following what he believed he reaped a harvest unlike any other individual in American History.

Muhammad Ali kept thinking positive **WHILE** living negative. He **REPEATEDLY** told himself and others that he was the greatest. He **REPEATEDLY** spoke well of black people. He **REPEATEDLY** said things that were positive. Muhammad Ali reaped a harvest of **ADMIRATION!**

He was admired by black people and the entire world. On the day of his death every nationality, ethnicity and background acknowledged him as being the greatest athlete in his sport and the greatest humanitarian during his era.

Thinking **POSITIVE** can take you a long way. If you faint not, if you keep moving forward, if you keep following what you believe and **IGNORE** your circumstances you will reap your harvest.

Philippians 4:8 says, *"Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, **THINK** on these things."*

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