



GOD
CALLS
Adventure

week 7

Perseverance & Way of the Cross

■ Discover
Spirituality



Perseverance

What is perseverance?

Perseverance is the continuing effort in pursuing a goal, despite challenges and difficulties. For the life of a Christian, the goal we are pursuing is following Jesus Christ to the Cross so that we may share in the glory of resurrection. In this journey we face many challenges and obstacles. The sufferings, challenges and trials of the human condition and normal life are all something we persevere with and through. We face temptations to stop following Jesus and are faced with many distractions that stop us listening to God as He calls us to himself, yet we persevere in our prayers, with our relationship with God, with seeking and carrying out his will, with our goal of entering the kingdom of heaven and living with God forever.

Why is it good for me to persevere?

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and to an inheritance which is imperishable, undefiled and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God’s power are guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, though now for a little while you may have to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith, more precious than gold which though perishable is tested by fire, may redound to praise and glory and honour at the revelation of Jesus Christ. Without having seen him, you love him; though you do not now see him you believe in him and rejoice with unutterable and exalted joy. As the outcome of your faith, you obtain the salvation of your souls.”

(Peter chapter 1 verses 3 to 9)

We grow in faith by practising perseverance. Our hearts are purified by persevering through our difficulties and offering them to Jesus for the sake of the Kingdom. Perseverance is required in the pursuit of all the other virtues. Perseverance helps us surrender to God as we learn that despite our best efforts, we need His mercy and love to get us through. Perseverance provides us with the opportunity to not only give Jesus our difficulties, asking for His help in bearing them, but to unite our suffering with His sufferings through His Passion and death on the cross for the sake of humanity. It is therefore a means of us partaking in God’s work of salvation of souls.

Monday

- Read Hebrews 12:1-2
- What does this passage teach us about perseverance?
- In your own life, what course does the “race that is set before us” take?
- In your prayers today, consider what the joy is that you seek and how you can keep the cross of Jesus Christ in your sights as you strive towards that end. your specific circumstances.

Tuesday

- Read Acts of the Apostles 1:12 – 14, 2:1
- Can you remember any times when you were conscious of the Holy Spirit at work in your life? How did you recognise His presence?
- How would you like the Holy Spirit to help you persevere in your life?
- In your prayers today, ask the Holy Spirit to help you persevere, ask Our Lady to accompany you as your mother.

Wednesday

- Read 1 Samuel 3:1-10
- Notice the persistence in God calling Samuel, until he was ready to respond. Have you noticed any persistent invitations from God in your life?
- What are they asking of you? How will you respond? Do you push them aside or do you persevere in taking time to answer,?
- Today, wholeheartedly answer “Speak Lord, for your servant is listening.” Identify one action you would like to take to move forward.

Thursday

- Read Mark 1:9-13
- What can we learn about persevering in fighting against temptation from this passage?
- In your own life, where are you aware of temptations, bad habits and areas of falling? How are they holding you back from growth and fulfillment?
- In your prayers today, bring these areas of your life to Our Lord Jesus asking that you may imitate Him in persevering in resisting sin and temptation.

Friday



- Read Luke 22:39-46
- What does it tell you about perseverance amid suffering? Do you notice any other areas it teaches about perseverance?
- What can you learn about God from this passage? And about yourself?
- Consider the areas of your life where you suffer intensely, talk to Jesus about them in your prayers today.
- Ask your Guardian Angel for what you need to help you persevere in your trials and sufferings.

Saturday

- Read Lamentations 3:25-26, 2 Chronicles 15:7, Galatians 6:9 and John 3:16.
- Give thanks and praise for the areas of your life you recognise God was with you as you persevered with/through something. How did you grow from that experience?
- Ask Him to help you persevere in the areas of your life where perseverance is needed. Talk over these areas with Him and take a little time to be silent to listen to Him.

Sunday

- Read Psalm 136
- What can you learn from it about who God the Father is?
- Does your reading prompt question about how it relates to you and your life?
- How would you like to respond to this passage and these questions?
- What can you do to persevere in returning the “steadfast love that endures for ever”?

Conclusion of the week:

- In your examination of consciousness today, reflect on what you have learned this week.
- What have you found difficult or challenging?
- What has given you joy or peace this week?
- What do changes will you make to your life going forward?

