

# HOW TO DEAL WITH DIFFICULTY

## The Six Phases of Faith - Part 5

**John 16:33** (Jesus) "In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

**2 Corinthians 6:4** (GN) (Paul) "In everything we do we show that we are God's servants, by enduring troubles, hardships and difficulties with great patience."

### How to Deal With Difficulty

#### I. DETERMINE \_\_\_\_\_

**Psalms 73:16-17** (GN) "I tried to think this problem through but it was too difficult for me until I went into your Temple."

##### Common Mistakes

1. We listen to \_\_\_\_\_.

**Acts 27:11** "... they followed the advice of the pilot..."

2. We follow \_\_\_\_\_.

**Acts 27:12** "the majority decided that we should sail..."

3. We rely on \_\_\_\_\_.

**Acts 27:13** "When a gentle south wind began to blow, they thought they had obtained what they wanted..."

#### II. DETERMINE \_\_\_\_\_

**2 Corinthians 4:17** (Ph) "These little troubles, which are temporary, are winning for us a permanent, glorious and solid reward all out of proportion to our pain."

**Romans 5:3-4** (LB) "We can rejoice when we run into problems and trials for we know ... they help us learn to be patient. And patience develops strength of character in us and helps us trust God more each time..."

#### III. DETERMINE \_\_\_\_\_

##### Wrong Responses

. Difficulties can cause us to \_\_\_\_\_.

**Acts 27:15** "... so we gave way to it and were driven along"

**2. Difficulties can cause us to \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Acts 27:18** "... they began to throw the cargo overboard..."

**Acts 27:31-32** "Paul told the centurion and soldiers, 'Unless these men remain in the ship, you cannot be saved.' So the soldiers cut away the ropes of the ship's lifeboats and let them fall away."

**3. Difficulties can cause us to \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Acts 27:20** "... we finally gave up all hope of being saved."

**The Right Response**

**1. Confess \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Proverbs 28:13 (LB)** "A man who refuses to admit his mistakes can never be successful. But if he confesses and forsakes them, he gets another chance."

**2. Confront \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Acts 27:33-34** "Therefore we know we're going to crack up so I encourage you to eat. Take some food."

**3. Claim \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Acts 27:25** "Therefore keep up your courage, men, for I believe God that it will turn out exactly as I have been told."

**Acts 27:41-44** "So they went straight ahead, striking a reef where the two seas met. They ran the vessel aground and the prow stuck fast and remained unmovable but the stern began to be broken up by the force of the waves. Now the soldiers' plan was to kill all the prisoners on board so they wouldn't escape. But the centurion wanting to keep Paul safe, kept them from their intentions and commanded that those who could swim should jump overboard first and swim to land. And the rest should follow, some on planks and others on the broken pieces from the ship. And thus it happened that they were all brought safely to land."