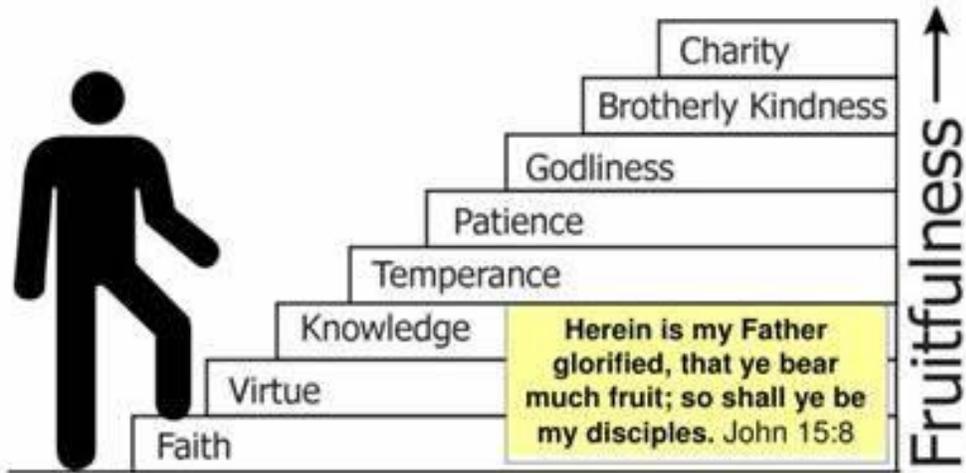


God's Call to Spiritual Growth

The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way. Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the LORD upholdeth him with his hand. Psalm 37:23,24



FEBRUARY BIBLE STUDY SERIES

SOLID STEPS OF CHRISTIAN GROWTH

Lesson Eight:
Add To Your Faith Perseverance
(Patience)
Part II

Scripture Lesson:
II Peter 1:5-7

II Peter 1:5-7 NKJV, But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, to knowledge self-control, to self-control PERSEVERANCE, to PERSEVERANCE godliness, to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love.

The background features several thin, light brown lines that intersect to form various geometric shapes, including triangles and quadrilaterals, creating a subtle grid-like pattern.

The Difference Between Patience And Perseverance

PATIENCE

Patience is the ability to accept or tolerate delay, problems, or suffering without becoming annoyed or anxious.

PERSEVERANCE

Perseverance refers to continued steady belief or efforts despite discouragement or difficulty.

A patient person is calm in the face of provocation, annoyance, and delay. A person who shows perseverance is strong and steady and does not give up in the face of adversity or difficulty.

PATIENCE involves
acceptance and
tolerance while
PERSEVERANCE
involves persistence
and determination.

“You don’t determine a person’s greatness by what they do or have done, but by what it takes to stop them.”

**Perseverance is a long name
that simply means grit, or in a
simpler form, stick-to-
itiveness.**

The background features several thin, light brown lines that intersect to form various geometric shapes, including triangles and quadrilaterals, creating a subtle grid-like pattern.

Faith and Perseverance Scriptures

Hebrews 12:1-2, Let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.

Philippians 3:14, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.



Perseverance Through Hard Times

James 1:3-4, Because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work, so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

Romans 5:3-4, We also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope.

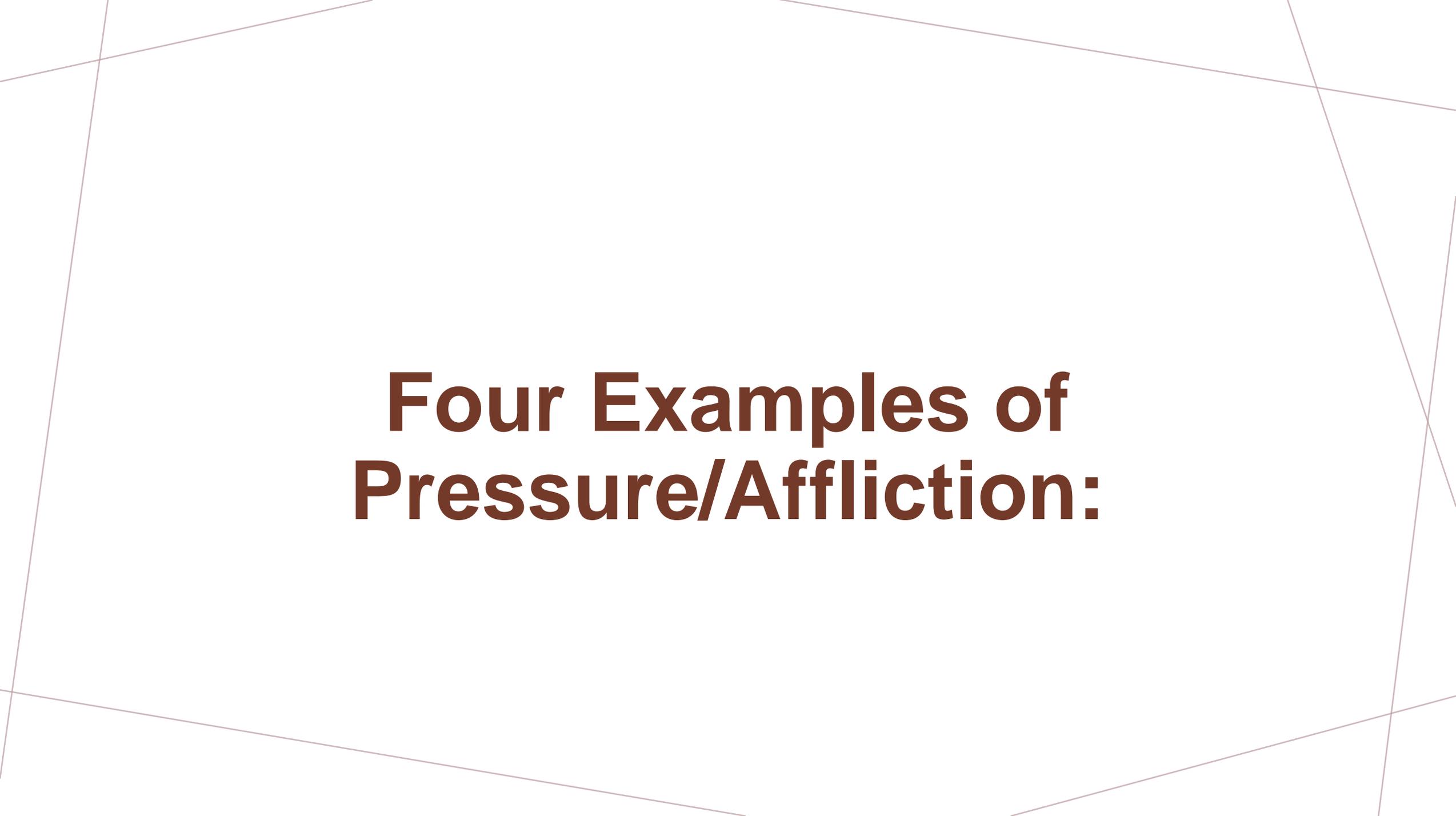
Perseverance In Prayer

Ephesians 6:18, With all prayer and petition, always pray in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints.
Colossians 4:2, Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.

The Power of Perseverance

II Timothy 4:7-8, I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. And now the prize awaits me- the crown of righteousness, which the Lord will give me on the day of his return.

**Be On Guard For Things That
Pull Us Away From Jesus.**



Four Examples of Pressure/Affliction:

Picture a TEA BAG - “People are like teabags; you never know how strong they are until they’re put in hot water.” When you place a tea bag in hot water, it does not change. But the hot water reveals what was already.

Picture A ROSE PETAL - We think of the scent given off when A rose petal is stepped on & crushed.

Picture A LUMP OF COAL - We think of Coal being under tremendous pressure being formed into Diamond. And this is done in a very dark place. Most natural diamonds are formed at high temperature and pressure at depths of 87-120 miles in the earth mantle

**Picture A WATER-SATURATED SPONGE.
If we push down with our finger even
slightly, water runs out onto the table.
We immediately know what fills the
interior pockets of the sponge.**

**WHAT PERSEVERANCE
DOES FOR US?**

**1. Perseverance Moves Us To
Choose The Only Viable Path:
Forward.**

**Sometimes God corrals us into a place
where the only viable path is forward
and the only way to look is up—just to
get us to persevere.**

2. Perseverance Enables Us To Live Without Regrets.

**“Failure Is A Detour, Not A
Dead-end Street.”**

3. Perseverance Clarifies Our Perspective.

4. Perseverance Builds Our Character.

**5. Perseverance Deepens Our
Worship And Praise.**

Psalm 13:1-3, How long, LORD? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? How long must I wrestle with my thoughts and day after day have sorrow in my heart? How long will my enemy triumph over me? Look on me and answer, LORD my God. Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep in death.

Psalm 40:1-3, I waited patiently for the LORD; He turned to me and heard my cry. He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; He set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand. He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see and fear the LORD and put their trust in Him.

**6. Perseverance Makes You
Push The Limits Of Your
Comfort Zone**

7. Perseverance Is Proof Of What You Are Capable Of

What Our Perseverance Does For God:

A. Perseverance Honors God.

B. Perseverance Magnifies God.

**Psalm 69:30, I will praise God's
name in song and glorify Him
with thanksgiving.**

**“Storms make the oak grow
deeper roots.”**

**“It is easier to go down a hill
than up it, but the view is much
better at the top.”**

Bible Study Follow-up Chat:

- 1. What does it mean to fix your eyes on Jesus, and why should you?**
- 2. Is there an area in your spiritual life where you need to show more perseverance? How can you make that happen?**
- 3. How have you experienced God strengthening you to persevere?**
- 4. “Every exchange with others counts for eternity. We are either weakening people’s affections for God or strengthening them.”**
- 5. Have there been times in your life where you had to choose if you were going to persevere or quit? What did you choose?**

6. Have you ever had an experience where you feel like the fact that you persevered through a situation-built character?

7. “We do not naturally desire perseverance. We get sidetracked with our comforts and our rights. Without perseverance, we become satisfied with immaturity.”

8. Is it selfishness? Wanting to get out of the situation by making it as easy as possible for yourself?

9. What are you holding steadfast to?