

All You Need Is Love

Ready:

“Out of the most severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability.”

-2 Corinthians 8:2-3 (NIV)

Set

When I decided to set my goal of being the first person with multiple sclerosis to compete in an NPC bodybuilding competition, I knew I would need help, but I never knew how generous and selfless so many people would be.

As a Christian, I know that we should give of ourselves to the Lord and even to those who cross our paths in life. We should always love our neighbors, be generous to those in need, and walk peacefully from those who come against us. My philosophy comes from the Word of God, who tells us over and over again that we must be Christ-like in all things and love one another. This means that we must always be generous to those we encounter, whether it's through a good deed, financial help or just being there as an emotional support. No matter what the circumstance, we should never change our beliefs or become bitter to the world. In sickness, poverty or any trial at all, we must stand firm and hold on to the ability to be generous and kind.

This is so important in our faith walk with God. He continually tells us in His Word that generosity, honor to one another, and love are not choices, but commands.

2 John 1:5 – “And now, dear lady, I am not writing you a new command but one we have had from the beginning. I ask that we love one another.”

Romans 12:10 – “Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves.”

2 Corinthians 9:11 – “You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.”

Every day, as I face the trials in my challenge, I experience the love, generosity and honor of others. I am blessed by those who have chosen to follow God's example and are rich in generosity. Without asking for anything in return, they have all given selflessly to help me be victorious in my journey.

During this, my most severe trial in life, I will continue to put my faith in the Lord and follow His command to love and honor others, as others have done for me—and more importantly, as Christ did for me. I want my generosity to result in thanksgiving to God, and I will strive to give as much as I am able, even beyond my ability.

Go

1. When you face severe trials, are you still generous, loving and honoring to others?
2. Does your faith enable you to be Christ-like in all situations?
3. When God blesses you, are you generous to those around you?

Workout

Leviticus 19:9, 13, 18

John 13:18, 34, 35

Galatians 5:13

Bible Reference:

2 John 1



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