

Lesson Notes:

Words of Encouragement

It's easy to feel overwhelmed at times with all of life's challenges. Especially if you are trying to provide for a family and effectively meet the needs of loved ones while meeting the requirements of a career. Our Lord knew that life would not be a bed of roses therefore he placed words of encouragement throughout the Bible to encourage us as we face the difficulties of life. Following are examples of just a few passages designed to encourage us.

Scriptural Principles

1) Psalm 37:23-24 tells us that our Lord directs our steps if we are holy - "The Lord directs the steps of the godly. He delights in every detail of their lives. Though they may stumble, they will never fall, for the Lord holds them by the hand."

2) Psalm 32:8 tells us that our Lord will direct our paths - "The Lord says, '**I will guide you along the best pathway for your life. I will advise you and watch over you**.'"

3) Psalm 37:4-5 tells us that if we commit our ways to the Lord he will grant us all the desires of our hearts. Therefore live as God intends you to live.

4) Paul tells us in Ephesians 2:10 that our Lord has plans for our life - "For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago."

5) Paul tells us in Ephesians 4:20 that it is God's desire to work through us - "Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think."

6) Solomon tells us in Proverbs 3:5-6 to trust in the Lord and he will direct our paths - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths."

7) Paul reminds us in Romans 8:28 that God has a purpose for each of us - "And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them."

8) Be content with what you have. – In **Philippians 4:11** Paul tells us to be content with what we have. Jesus tells us in **Matthew 6:19-21** to be not concerned with the things of this world but lay up your treasures in heaven.