

## OVERCOMING ADVERSITY

*Isaiah 40:28-31*

Every Christian has dealt with or is dealing with some type of adversity. It could be persecution, unemployment, family problems, etc. Whatever the problem, know that God is near to comfort, encourage, and to help you.

1) Adversity can be used as a \_\_\_\_\_ builder.  
**Psalms 91:1-2 (ESV)** *He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. <sup>2</sup> I will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."*

**Romans 8:38-39 (ESV)** *For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

2) God \_\_\_\_\_ his faithfulness in adversity.  
**2 Corinthians 4:8-10 (ESV)** *We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; <sup>9</sup> persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; <sup>10</sup> always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies.*

3) Do not \_\_\_\_\_ the Lord is near.  
**Isaiah 41:10 (ESV)** *fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.*

**Joshua 1:9 (ESV)** *Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."*

4) We should \_\_\_\_\_ ourselves with other believers for comfort.  
**1 Thessalonians 5:11 (ESV)** *Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.*

**Proverbs 17:17 (ESV)** *A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.*

5) Adversity can \_\_\_\_\_ a closer relationship with God.  
**Psalms 59:16-17 (ESV)** *But I will sing of your strength; I will sing aloud of your steadfast love in the morning. For you have been to me a fortress and a refuge in the day of my distress. <sup>17</sup> O my Strength, I will sing praises to you, for you, O the God who shows me steadfast love.*

**1 Peter 5:10-11 (ESV)** *And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. <sup>11</sup> To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.*

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Ways to Give:** Online at [vcctracy.org](http://vcctracy.org) or text message at 209-900-8368.

**Prayer Every Sunday Morning:** 9:15 - 9:45am - In the Sanctuary.

### **Dining With The Community**

**Feeding the Hungry:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month.

**Travel Size Toiletries:** We are collecting these for distribution to the homeless.

**Bake Sale:** Today!

**New Community Group Series - *The Trust Factor - Trusting God When It Doesn't Make Sense*** - Begins April 9th. This is a 6 week series.

**Job Recruitment Fair:** 04/29/17 - 12:00-2pm - Sign up at the Info Booth.

**Women's Ministry Meeting:** 05/06/17 - 12:00-2pm.  
*Mind, Spirit, Soul and Body* - Sign up at the Info Booth.

*Serving The Lord by Reaching The Lost,  
Transforming Hearts At Any Cost.*

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