**Leading the Church during Economic Crisis**

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*Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?* Romans 8:35

1. **Introduction**
2. Economic pressure is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
3. Christianity was made for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
4. Christians should be able to use stressful times as seasons of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
5. As pastors we must \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to go through the storms.
6. **There are right and wrong responses to crisis.**
7. The wrong response is to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (I Peter 5:6-7, NLT; Isaiah 41:10; Mt. 6:25-34).

Fear can lead to…

1. Worry
2. Anxiety
3. Panic
4. Self-preservation
5. The right response is to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Ps. 37:3; Pro. 3:5-6; 16:20).
6. **An important key to prospering in times of crisis is keeping our focus right.**
7. There are things on which we are not to focus.
8. We are not to focus on the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (circumstances).
9. We are not to focus on the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Num. 13:28-32).
10. We are not to focus on our own \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Num. 13:33).
11. We are not to focus on the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
12. There are things on which we are to focus.
13. We are to focus on the strength and the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Jer. 32:17, 27; Ps. 107:28-31; Is. 25:4).
14. We are to focus on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with God (Hos. 5:15).

1. We are to focus on the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of God.
2. His \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Phil. 4:19; Jer. 17:7-8; Is. 41:10)
3. His \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Ps. 32:7; 91:1-16; Is. 4:5-6)
4. His \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Ps. 46:1-7)
5. His \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Deut. 31:6)

Other Verses: Ps. 73:23-26; Hab. 3:17-19; Mt. 6:31-33; II Cor. 4:16-18; Phil. 4:6-7; Heb. 13:5

1. We are to focus on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
2. Spiritually

* Prayer
* The Word
* Fellowship
* First Love Relationship to God

1. Financially

* Hard work
* Wise buying
* Sales resistance
* Minimal debt

1. We are to focus on our relationship to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 2:44-47; II Cor. 8:13-15; Eph. 4:16). This means that we should:

* Tighten our relationships in the Body of Christ.
* Seek wisdom and counsel from our brethren (Pro. 11:14).
* Continue to stay closely tied into the local church in active service.
* Be willing to open our hand to those who are in need.

1. We are to focus on the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ rather than the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (II Cor. 4:16-18: Rom. 8:28).
2. We are to focus on what \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ not on what we \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Heb. 13:5-6) and cultivate contentment.

There are at least thirteen biblical \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

* + - 1. Having godly offspring (Gen. 32:12).
      2. Having a personal relationship with Jesus Christ (Rom. 10:11-13).
      3. Meeting godly goals in life (Ezra 6:14; Ps. 20:4).
      4. Experiencing rest from personal enemies (II Chr. 14:7b).
      5. Having favor and high esteem before God and man (Pro. 3:3-4).
      6. Having good friendships (Eccl. 4:7-12, NLT).
      7. Being free from bondages that enslave (Rom. 8:21; Gal. 5:1).
      8. Knowing a deep inner peace and rest in the spirit (Pro. 3:2; 17:1; Ps. 29:11).
      9. Having physical health and strength (III John 2).
      10. Having an abundance of material goods (Deut. 28:1-14).
      11. Having respect from those who know you (Pro.11:16 NIV).
      12. Having a long, enjoyable and satisfying life (Ps. 91:14-16; Pro. 10:27).
      13. Having personal security for the future (I John 2:16-17).

1. We are to focus on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ rather than \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Pro. 11:24-26; II Cor. 9:6)
2. We are to focus on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_rather than\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Mt. 28:18-20).
3. We are to focus on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Eph. 3:20-21).

Believing prayer…

1. Believes God for miraculous provision in famine (Phil. 4:19, NIV; Gen. 26:1-3, 12-13).
2. Believes God for wisdom (Jam. 1:5-6, NIV).
3. Believes God for direction (Pro. 3:5-6, NLT).
4. Believes God for new doors of opportunity (Col. 4:2-4).
5. **A key to prospering during crisis is to make adversity work for us (II Cor. 4:16-18).**
6. Use this as an opportunity to equip people \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
7. Use this as a time to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ your management systems.
8. Use this as an opportunity to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of church ministry.
9. Use this as a time to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
10. Use this as a time to utilize resources in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ways.