



Pt 3

God's Sustaining Grace

God desires that we all finish the race of life really well and in a good relationship with Him.

God wants to sustain us and help us in every aspect of our life.

God sustains us by bending down in His kindness giving us the support we need in difficult times. His sustaining grace is giving us what we need when we need it.

God **'WILL'** give us the power to keep on going, even when we feel like giving up.



God's Grace empowers us to keep on, keeping on!

As followers of God we can be assured that He will not only help us but that He will help us all the way to the end. **Philippians 1:6** (tlb)

... God's sustaining grace equips us when we're facing temptation.

1 Peter 5:8-9 (niv)

The very moment we become a Christ follower, a battle starts in our life. We are in God's hands and the devil doesn't like it one bit.

As Christ followers we are constantly faced with moral and ethical choices.

The Bible says that we are all tempted – no one can escape being tempted. The bad news is that we will never outgrow temptation.

Falling to temptation causes us to stumble but God's sustaining grace enables us to overpower temptation.

We can take comfort in knowing that Jesus was also tempted.

Hebrews 2:18a (tlb) *For since He Himself has now been through suffering and temptation...*

Jesus is able to identify with us in our struggle with temptation.

Hebrews 2:18b (niv) *...He [Jesus] is able to help those who are being tempted.*

Jesus was tempted but He never sinned. Being tempted is not a sin!

We cannot stop temptation from coming but we can control how we deal with temptation.

God will never allow more temptation to come against us that we cannot handle.

1 Corinthians 10:13 (niv)

... God's sustaining grace empowers us to get through life.

Being committed to doing the right thing can be tough.

Galatians 6:9a (niv) *Let us not become weary in doing good....*

Where do we get the power to do the right thing when we are exhausted?

2 Corinthians 1:21-22 (niv)

The ability not to give up and to do the right thing comes knowing the Holy Spirit is in our lives. It is the Holy Spirit who energizes us through His power, not ours!

The key of the Christian life is not **trying** to be a Christian. It is **trusting** that Jesus who is alive in us, will give us all that we need to be able to do His will.

He will give you all the power that you need to keep on keeping on, sustaining us.

... God's sustaining grace encourages us when we're facing problems.

John 16:33b (nlt)

Jesus says that He will give us the power to handle the problems of life.

Through God's sustaining grace we can come through these sorts of situations.

Psalms 46:1 (niv) *God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.*

We can learn wisely from how Paul handled adverse situations.

2 Corinthians 1:8-11 (niv)

- Paul had to totally rely on God in his time of trouble and not what he could do.
- Paul set His hope in God - knowing that God would deliver him.
- Paul knew the power of others praying for him in his time of need.
- Paul understood a greater measure of God's sustaining grace when encountering life threatening situations.

2 Corinthians 1:3-4 (nlt)

God will comfort us in our troubles.

That is God stooping down to us and sustaining us in His kindness.

God's sustaining grace equips us when we're facing temptation, empowers us not to give up and encourages us to face life's problems - knowing that God will help us and comfort us in times of difficulties.

God wants us to finish the marathon of life well.

Philippians 3:12-14 (nlt)

We must endure. We do this through the incredible sustaining grace of God!

God's grace is not only there to save us but also to sustain us!