

JANUARY 5

“HAVING FAITH IN GOD MEANS KNOWING GOD HAS THE POWER.”

READ

1 Peter 4:12-19

Suffering, problems, troubles are inevitable. Don't be surprised that the more faith you have, the more suffering will come your way. Jesus is cleansing and perfecting, testing us by fire so that our faith is genuine. If you have faith when you're going through the worst thing you've ever been through, and you say, "I still believe God is on the throne," that's what faith really is. In Mark 11, Jesus told his disciples they were going into town. Jesus was hungry and passed by a fig tree that had no figs on it. He told that tree to die, and they went on into town. When they came back by the same fig tree the next day, Peter said to Jesus, "Look, the tree you cursed is dead." Jesus didn't talk about the fig tree anymore because the lesson wasn't about the fig tree. Jesus looked at him and said, "Have faith in God. Direct your attention upward." He was telling them that the power behind prayer comes from God, not the person praying. He wanted the disciples to understand that, in and through Him, they will have power beyond themselves to accomplish what He gives them to do.

PRAY

Jesus, I don't want to look religious, I want to bear fruit. Give me the faith to do what you give me to do.