

# Melbourne Church of Christ

*"A family of believers seeking to grow spiritually while sharing Jesus and serving others."*

## What God Promises to Do Concerning Our Trials

by Edd Sterchi

"Oh, no, here I go again. Another trial in my life. Lord, just how much do you think I can really handle?" Have you ever said or thought those words, or something like them? That recently? Me, too. When times like that hit, we need to avoid the temptation of thinking that maybe we have a God who doesn't care for us or is not active in our lives. Nothing could be further from the truth.

The apostle Peter penned an amazing verse that testifies of an active, caring Father in heaven-even during the trials of life. It is 1 Pet. 5:10: "But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you." That list of actions, when studied in the original language, reveal some interesting things. Let's briefly look at each of them:

After we have suffered a while, God will MEND us. That's what the original meaning of the word that is translated "perfect" was. It was used in first century times of mending or repairing fishing nets – something that Peter was well acquainted with. Peter knew for certain of how God had reconditioned his life. Just think of it, God putting our lives back together again! Sounds like an active God in our lives to me.

After we have suffered a while, God will STABILIZE us. That's what the original meaning of the word that is translated "establish" was. It carries the connotation of a constant effort to "shore up." Peter knew well about how God can bring stability to one's life. Just think of it, God bringing balance to our lives! Sounds like an active God in our lives to me.

Continued on next page...

### Dates to Remember

- ★ Ladies meet the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of every month @ 6 p.m. bring a finger food.
- Men meet the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of every month for breakfast @ 8 a.m.
- Potluck every 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after services.

Sermons and bulletins available @  
[Melbournechurchofchrist.com](http://Melbournechurchofchrist.com)

Sunday Bible Class 9:15 a.m.  
Sunday Worship 10:10 a.m.  
Wednesday Evening 6:00 p.m.



Melbourne Church of Christ  
A Place to Belong

#### Elders

Danny Brightwell  
291-3439  
  
Shelby Qualls  
291-7424

#### Deacons

David Brightwell     Alan Love  
307-5714                243-4608  
  
Joe Cooper  
291-4653

#### Minister

Ryan Lloyd  
217-1109  
Melbourne CoC  
Box 267  
Melbourne, AR 72556

## Family News

- The Encouragement Group has been moved from meeting on Tuesday's, to Thursday's at 9am in the fellowship hall. If you cannot attend at that time and would like to participate, talk to Danny or Betty Brightwell and they can get you set up.

**OPENING PRAYER** Danny Brightwell

**CLOSING PRAYER** Shelby Qualls



**AUGUST**

**ALAN LOVE  
BRADLEY SIPE**

**DAVIS LOVE  
CHIP MASTER**

**SEPTEMBER**

**JOE COOPER  
SANDERS LEE WYATT**

**BRENT QUALLS  
SHAWN WORTHAM**

**Continued... After we have suffered a while, God will IMPROVE us. That's what the original meaning of the word that is translated "strengthen" was. Peter had first-hand knowledge about how the power and patience of God can work to enhance lives. Just think of it, God making us better! Sounds like an active God in our lives to me.**

**After we have suffered a while, God will ANCHOR us. That's what the original meaning of the word that is translated "settle" was. The word comes from the root word meaning "foundation." Peter's life sure did settle into one of firmness in Christ, didn't it? Just think of it, God firmly fastening our lives to Him. Sounds like an active God in our lives to me.**

**But note the common denominator in all of these. It is after we have suffered a while. Trials are meant to strengthen, not weaken. Got trials in your life? Don't give up or give in. Someone once noted that trials in our lives can make us either bitter or better. If we don't become resentful or bitter, then know that God will do His part and make our lives better. "And we know that all things work together for good to those that love God, who are called according to His purpose" (Rom. 8:28). Know that God has some great plans for you once the trials are over. And know that He will do so much for you "after you have suffered a while."**

**Prayer List**

**Military:** Derek Love    **Officers:** Steve & Sherry Davidson, Jamie Irvin, Tyler Webb, Caeden Wolfe, Blake Johnson    **Nursing Home:** Al Gillihan, Debbie Hoskinds, Imodean Webb, Troy Gaston, Eula Fulbright

<b>Health:</b> Ted Kidd	Richard Gunter	Donnie Vest	Joanna Smith
Joe Guiltner	Dan Clark	Wilma Cooper	Wayne Crosby
Tracy Thomas	Brooke Pritchard	Connie Wheeler	Bill Roland
Hayden Phillips	Donny Smith	Joanne Weston	Nevin Hart
Bill Wiseman	Debbie Nicholson	Helen King	Phil Haagenson
Mary Kosmitis	Dorothy Teague	Jim Fowler	Shirley Lewis
Diane Owens	Ivy Jo Slade	Jeff Young	Lynn Hicks
Justin Teague	Charlotte Cooper	Cecilia Broughton	Sue Campbell
Chip & Regina Master	Ted & Sanyia Austin		Treva Voyles
John Ward	Michael Washington	Dwain Welch	Shawna Teegarden
Natasha Lesko	Christie Haney	Jerry Roland	Arlene Davidson
Regenia Gillihan	Cornelia Summers		

**August Birthdays**

Ashlyn Beebe 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Melba Gillihan 4 <sup>th</sup>	Geryl Taylor 5 <sup>th</sup>
John Smith 8 <sup>th</sup>	Tiffany Webb 10 <sup>th</sup>	Holly Cooper 12 <sup>th</sup>
Billy Beebe 13 <sup>th</sup>	Brent Qualls 15 <sup>th</sup>	Abe Cooper 15 <sup>th</sup>
Anita Love 17 <sup>th</sup>	Tim Vest 20 <sup>th</sup>	Diane Zook 20 <sup>th</sup>
Jimmie Young 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Dottie McWherter 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Jordan Kimble 23 <sup>rd</sup>
Ramona Qualls 26 <sup>th</sup>	Roby Cooper 26 <sup>th</sup>	Laine Wagoner 27 <sup>th</sup>
Sarena Young 28 <sup>th</sup>	Shawna Teegarden 29 <sup>th</sup>	Sanders Lee Wyatt 31 <sup>st</sup>

**August Anniversaries**

Tommy & Sandra Taylor 10 <sup>th</sup>	Danny & Betty Brightwell 12 <sup>th</sup>
Kelly & Tiffany Webb 13 <sup>th</sup>	Ronnie & Sally Adkisson 15 <sup>th</sup>
Cleve & Darla Weaver 21 <sup>st</sup>	Joe & Shirley Guiltner 23 <sup>rd</sup>
Doyle & Diana Wyatt 29 <sup>th</sup>	

**2 Corinthians 1:3-4, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction so that we will be able to comfort those who are in any affliction with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God."**

**The Gospel is the DBR:**

