

Think About It Thursday

Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. (James 1:2-4 NIV)

And I'll praise You in this storm, and I will lift my hands.
For You are who You are, no matter where I am.
And every tear I've cried you hold in Your hand
You never left my side, and though my heart is torn, I will praise You in this storm."

Praise You In The Storm - Casting Crowns

We are not joyful about the hardships of our life. We aren't happy we lost our job or that our spouse has cancer or that our small town has been devastated by a tornado or that our house has flooded....or that our child has died in a car wreck. We aren't happy over these things, however even in the midst of them we can still have joy in our hearts. Why? Because the joy in our hearts comes from the saving grace and acceptance of Jesus Christ. That will not change even when our circumstances in our life change. If we are redeemed and sealed by the blood of Christ then even in the despair and pain of the situations of our lives, we can still know the joy of salvation and peace in our heart. Jobs' wife told him to curse God and die in the middle of his suffering and he basically told her that he couldn't enjoy and praise God in the good without accepting and praising Him in the bad. Nothing we can ever experience and no suffering we can go through can ever change who we are in Jesus Christ...a child of the King!

The Joy of the Lord is our strength!!!!!!