

ENCOURAGEMENT IN DIFFICULTY

Question:

had to ask this question because it seems God doesn't care at all... I have so many problems that I won't wish my worst enemy and they have affected me academically.

I'm so depressed that I wish myself death at times. I always think about any little/unnecessary things, I lack confidence.

This started about 10 years ago when I realized that I had a mother tongue (which is not supposed to be a problem actually) and this made me too shy to talk in public especially.

The mother tongue is: using L and N interchangeably sometimes, but later on I was able to rectify it(that is,being able to differentiate them)....Actually I don't know how this developed into a big problem... it may sound funny but it has caused me much depression,thinking it might not just be a mother tongue.

The worst is that I [have a sinful habit] and my heart is always beating fast(I think I'm sick). I have [had this sinful habit] for about 10 years as well.My life is far from being okay.Depression is killing me and I always think that God will not help me because I'm not righteous.

And other problems!!!

Response:

Hi. I'm a Christian, a committed follower of the Lord Jesus Christ according to the Bible.

I assume that you are a Christian too, but it is possible that you are not so please correct me if I am wrong.

Life is hard for everyone no matter who they are but it is particularly hard for Christians and generally hardest for those who are committed to the Truth of Jesus Christ. I say this to help you come to appreciate that you are not alone in pain. Everyone hurts. It may not be very comforting to realize that but at least it helps you know that yours is not a unique case and if others are coping somehow, then perhaps you can too.

If you are a believer in the Lord Jesus, then you have access to the greatest and most effective comfort a human being could hope to have in the pains and travails of this life and that is God's Own Peace, the Peace that the Lord Jesus Christ gave to everyone who chooses to follow Him (John 14:27).

All you need to do to take advantage of that Peace is this:

Philippians 4:6-7 NASB

[6]Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

[7]And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

When we pray, we hand over to the Lord the things that trouble us and trust Him to handle them in the perfect way. We are never certain what He may do about them but we KNOW that He loves us more than we can comprehend love and He is greater than the whole universe. That means that if anything is good for us, He will not withhold it from us and there is nothing that can stop Him from giving it to us.

But we do not often see what He sees or know what He knows. In fact, we almost never do. But His goodness to us in times past should always tell us that we can trust Him completely no matter what. So, we should never assume that He is failing us or loving us less when things don't go as we want them to. He is working ALL THINGS **together** for good to those who love Him (Romans 8:28). That means that even unpleasant things are worked into His Perfect Plan for us.

Please be encouraged by this. Know that the God Who loved you so much that He gave His One and Only Son to a Spiritual Death beyond human comprehension in order to pardon us and save us from Eternal Condemnation cannot now just ignore you and cease to care for you. He cares more deeply for you than anyone knows how to care for anything.

As for your struggle with sin, we all do (James 3:2). Not that it is how we should be, no. We ought to continue to resist sin even if we have to do so "unto blood" (Hebrews 12:4). But we are clothed with sinful flesh for now (Romans 7:17), so we all sin sometimes. In order to increasingly cease from sin, we must not only be doing our best to oppose our own sinful flesh by actively breaking sinful patterns (e.g., one may stop watching music videos if they start one thinking about sex and eventually ending up committing more overt sins) but we must also make it a strong priority to commit ourselves to the Truth, that is, to reading our Bibles and diligently following correct and in-depth Bible teaching that helps us transform the way we think in our hearts and thus change our attitudes and actions more permanently to be more pleasing to the Lord. We are only truly changed from the inside out, not from the outside in. So, while it is a good thing that you are zealous to please God in your sexual behavior, know that you can only do so by learning to think like He does about it and you can only do so by diligently studying Bible teaching that is actually true to what the Bible says, not teachings that distort the Bible for self-aggrandizing purposes.

I suggest <https://ichthys.com> as a source for such teachings. You may also look up www.bibleacademyonline.com as an alternative. And here on Nairaland, on my profile, you will find two threads where I try to provide some Bible teaching to help other believers like yourself so that they too can grow to become able to control their bodies in a manner that pleases the Lord in addition to fulfilling their own ministries to the Lord.

As for the embarrassing aspect of speech that you contended with and any other such

concerns you may have, please remember that

1 Corinthians 1:26-31 NASB

[26]**For consider your calling, brethren, that there were not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble;**

[27]**but God has chosen the foolish things of the world to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to shame the things which are strong,**

[28]**and the base things of the world and the despised God has chosen, the things that are not, so that He may nullify the things that are,**

[29]so that no man may boast before God.

[30]But by His doing you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption,

[31]so that, just as it is written, "Let him who boasts, boast in the Lord."

And

Philippians 3:4-7 NASB

[4]although I myself might have confidence even in the flesh. If anyone else has a mind to put confidence in the flesh, I far more:

[5]circumcised the eighth day, of the nation of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the Law, a Pharisee;

[6]as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to the righteousness which is in the Law, found blameless.

[7]But **whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ.**

And

Exodus 4:10 NASB

[10]Then Moses said to the Lord, "Please, Lord, I have never been eloquent, neither recently nor in time past, nor since You have spoken to Your servant; for I am slow of speech and slow of tongue."

As well as

Numbers 12:3 NASB

[3](Now the man Moses was very humble, more than any man who was on the face of the earth.)

You have nothing to worry about if the Lord is pleased with you. Many things that embarrass us in this life are passing away. We have such a short time here on earth to fight for the greatest rewards of eternity. After that, all the sorrows and tears of this life will pass away and joy and peace and perfection will be ours for all eternity. Whatever seems like such a big deal to you right now is really not that important. What really matters is that the Lord God knows you to be one of His. Rejoice in that (Luke 10:20). It is an enormous blessing that God rejoices in you. This world's jeers and sneers will all amount to nothing in

the end so don't let such things as you spoke of tell you how to define yourself. One really is only whatever God says that they are.

Please be at peace, friend. God loves you far more than you can begin to imagine. And He has promised to never leave you or forsake you. I will say a prayer for you over here.

The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ remain with you.