

Going Through Hell to Get to Heaven

(You're not lost, you just don't know where you are!)
(SERIES: When You're Going Through Hell . . . ; 02 of 11)
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“For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. If anyone builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, their work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality”(1 Corinth 3:11 NIV)

How do you see your life?

My life is a cautionary tale.

My life is under construction.

My life is a quest for purpose.

“Strip down, start running—and never quit! No extra spiritual fat, no parasitic sins. **Keep your eyes on Jesus, who both began and finished this race we're in.** Study how he did it. Because he never lost sight of where he was headed—that exhilarating finish in and with God—he could put up with anything along the way: Cross, shame, whatever.” (Hebrews 12:1-3 TheMsg)

In every race...

There are temptations to cut corners.

“Therefore I do not run like someone running aimlessly; I do not fight like a boxer beating the air. No, I strike a blow to my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.” (1 Corinth 9:26 NIV)

Your resolve will be tested

“Jesus replied, ‘No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God.’” (Luke 9:62 NIV)

There are trials **to endure.**

Are we there yet?

Between **yes**, but not **yes yet.**

Between the **trying** and the **coming true.**

Between the **hoping** and the **having.**

What kind of hot is this?

The reality of **unbelief.**

The Father's **discipline.**

“My son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline, and do not lose heart when he rebukes you, because the Lord disciplines those he loves, and he punishes everyone he accepts as a son. Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as sons. For what son is not disciplined by his father?” (Hebrews 12:5 NIV)

The pain of **pruning.**

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful.” (Joh 15:1-2 NIV)

The **refiners fire.**

“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy,” (1 Pet 1:3-8 NIV)