

Daily Devotion from the Word for you today!

When we are knocked down, we get up again 2 Corinthians 4:9

### Problem Solving (1)

Every problem you face in life introduces you to yourself. It shows you how you think and what you're made of. People basically respond to problems in three ways:

(1) They refuse to accept them, (2) they accept them and then endure them, or (3) they accept them and try to improve ~~them~~ things. Which of the three people are you? Paul was a problem solver. He knew that with God on his side, he would prevail. "We are like clay jars in which this treasure is stored. The real power comes from God and not from us. We often suffer, but we are never crushed. Even when we don't know what to do, we never give up. In times of trouble, God is with us, and when we are knocked down, we get up again". So when it comes to having problems, what should you do? (1) Anticipate them. Since problems are unavoidable, prepare for them spiritually, mentally, and emotionally. If you pray for God's best and anticipate Satan's worst, you will find yourself in a good position to solve the problems that come your way. (2) See the big picture. You can't afford to be overcome by ~~an~~ emotion. Never can you permit yourself to get bogged down in the minutiae and lose sight of what's important. (3) Handle one thing at a time. Richard Stroma said, "Never try to solve all the problems at once - make them line up for you one-by-one." and if you're facing lots of problems, make sure you actually solve the



One ~~you're~~ you're working on before moving on to the next one.

"By my God I can leap over a wall." psalms 18:29  
Problem Solving (2)

Author, John Maxwell writes: "When you come face to face with a problem, how do you react? Do you ignore it and hope it will go away? Do you feel powerless to solve it? Have you had such bad experiences trying to solve problems in the past that you've just given up? Or do you tackle them willingly? The ability to solve problems effectively comes from experiencing facing and overcoming obstacles. Each time you solve another problem, you get a little better at the process. But if you never try, fail and try again, you'll never be good at it." Author George Matthew Adams stated: "What you think means more than anything else in your life. More than what you earn, more than where you live, more than your social position, and more ~~than what you think~~ <sup>than</sup> what anyone else may think about you." Most of King David's problems were enemies who wanted to defeat him. But he had confidence in God: "For by you I can run against a troop, by my God I can leap over a wall". To improve your problem-solving abilities, do the following: (1) Find the right strategy. Sometimes we have a hard time solving the problem because we don't know how to tackle it. Try using the acronym T.E.A.C.H.: Time - take the time required to discover the real issue. Exposure



- find out how others have solved similar problems. assistance - don't try to do it all alone, let others help you. ~~Brain~~ Creativity - brainstorm numerous solutions. Hit it - execute the best solution (2) Surround yourself with problem solvers. "He who walks with wise men will be wise" (Proverbs 13:20)

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