



Grit:

- *Courage or resolve – strength of character (Oxford)*
- *Firmness of mind or spirit – unyielding courage in the face of hardship or danger (Webster)*
- *Passion & perseverance for long term & meaningful goals*

Things may not get **EASIER**, but they can get **BETTER**.

:: 1 Corinthians 15:58 [NIV] *Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.*

:: Hebrews 10:36 [NIV] *You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised.*

:: Luke 21:19 [ESV] *By your endurance you will gain your lives.*

Where do you need to **EMBRACE** grit?

James 1:2-4 [NIV]

² *Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, ³ because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. ⁴ Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.*

John 16:33 [NIV]

“I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”

Galatians 6:9 [NIV]

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

Genesis 50:19-20

¹⁹ *But Joseph said to them, “Don’t be afraid. Am I in the place of God?” ²⁰ You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.”*

How to receive forgiveness from God:

- 1) *Admit you, like everyone else, need new LIFE in Jesus.*
- 2) *Ask God to forgive your sins by the sacrifice of Jesus.*
- 3) *Receive new LIFE from God by trusting in Jesus as your Savior & Lord.*

You can do that now by simply talking to God in a prayer like this:

Dear Lord Jesus, I know I am a sinner, and I ask for Your forgiveness. I believe You died for my sins and rose from the dead. Today, I receive you as my Savior; and I put my faith in you as my LORD. Help me to live for you all the days of my life. In Your name, Amen.

If you chose to follow Jesus today, text “FAITH” to 309-250-2007 to receive additional information about next steps in following Jesus.

For Further Reflection:

- :: *Share a time you had to demonstrate grit? What happened?*
- :: *Pastor Shawn referred to the statement: Things may not get easier, but they can get better.*
 - :: *What would be a practical example of that dynamic?*
 - :: *How have you seen/experienced that in your life or someone else's?*
 - :: *How do feel about that reality as you reflect on your own journey in this life?*
- :: *Read/Review 1 Corinthians 15:58, Hebrews 10:36 and Luke 21:19*
 - :: *Share a time you personally...witnessed/experienced perseverance, steadfastness or endurance...[or]...grew tired in doing good. (ref. Gal. 6:9)*
 - :: *Why do you think perseverance, steadfastness and endurance are so much a part of the faith journey? What can happen when they are not?*
- :: *Pastor Shawn said, “What God has prepared for us is often on the other side of things that require grit.”*
 - :: *How have you seen this to be the case, or not?*
 - :: *Why do you think that is?*
 - :: *How do you think God views those moments and dynamics? Why?*
- :: *Where is God inviting you to step by faith and embrace grit for his purpose?*
- :: *Identify one thing you can do this week to live into that invitation, and do it.*

Unless otherwise noted, today's Scripture is from the New International Version [NIV].

Shawn Cossin (@shawncossin) – January 9 & 10, 2021

Watch this message and other recent messages online at heritageqc.com/watch

Join us for in-person worship gatherings beginning Sunday, January 17th!

Location & Time: Rock Island campus at 9:00am.

We look forward to sharing additional opportunities at additional locations soon!
For more information, check out the Church Center App and heritageqc.com.



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