

**Pastor's Weekly Devotional- November 9, 2017**

**ARE YOU A BLESSED SURVIVOR?**

The Christian is not dehumanized because of his or her faith in God. "The rain falls on the just and the unjust alike," the Bible says. However, those who handle life's difficulties most effectively have certain traits which make them stand apart. Here are a few of the characteristics they possess:

- Blessed Survivors put the past behind them. They don't rehearse the bad past. They follow the scriptural admonition: "forgetting those things behind us we press forward..." writes the Apostle Paul.
- Blessed Survivors learn from others who have gone through difficult times in life. Jesus is seen as the Pioneer and Example of our faith since He understands what human pain is all about.
- Blessed Survivors learn to forgive. The grace which they receive from God, they share that grace with others.
- Blessed Survivors are optimistic. They believe that "they can do all things through Christ who strengthens them."
- Blessed Survivors are flexible, resilient and adaptable. They grow through Change. The more rigid a person is, the less hopeful his or her life will be. Even Nature itself changes with the seasons.
- Blessed Survivors don't give up. Courage and determination are their bywords. The scripture says: "What can separate from the love of God..." Absolutely nothing! Perseverance. Patience. Hope. These are traits a Blessed Survivor possesses.

I purposely call those who have experienced difficult times, problems and sickness "blessed." Why? The answer is obvious. As long as you have the assurance that you belong to God then everything is under His Sovereign eye and control. Indeed, what comes from God is always blessed and becomes a blessing in the life of the believer.

Have a blessed week!  
Pastor Sewdin