

“Therefore, my beloved brothers and sisters, be

STEADFAST

immovable, always excelling in the
work of the Lord, knowing that
your labor is not in vain in the Lord.”

1 Corinthians 15:58, NASB

WHAT DOES STEADFAST IN THE BIBLE MEAN?

STEADFAST: resolutely or dutifully firm and unwavering.

When we read it in the Bible, it usually refers to someone who is faithful and loyal. Something that is steadfast never moves or changes.

Not many things are truly steadfast in this life. We have seen over the last few years how everything we know can change, and life can be uprooted in just a few days.

Life can feel like a little boat that's drifting out in the ocean, and we have no control. We need a solid place to anchor our souls. One thing that will never change or move.

Hebrews 6:19 says, "We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain;" Who or what is this verse talking about?

Christ Jesus is the never-changing Rock on which we can put our faith. He is our steadfast anchor of the soul. A safe harbor in the storms of life.

EXAMPLES OF STEADFAST IN THE BIBLE

Our human nature is not naturally steadfast.

However, God wants us to serve Him faithfully, and that requires us to work to develop a steadfast faith.

GOD

God is the ultimate example of steadfastness in the Bible. Psalm 136 reminds us of the steadfast love of God. This agape love is pure, steadfast, and unwavering. He faithfully loves, guides, protects, and comforts His children.

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever. Give thanks to the God of gods, for his steadfast love endures forever. Psalm 136:1

God is faithful to keep His promises and provides the hope of eternity spent in His perfect presence.

JESUS

Jesus is another powerful example of steadfastness in the Bible.

Hebrews 12:2 says, "Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God."

Jesus looked into the future and saw that pain and suffering waited for Him on the cross, but He endured the suffering for us. He was steadfast in His love for His Father and desired to do God's will, even when it cost Him His life.

NOAH

God told Noah to build a boat even though the earth had never seen rain. It took Noah 120 years to build the Ark. Even though people made fun of him, he was steadfast and faithful to God's calling.

DANIEL, SHADRACH, MESHACH AND ABEDNEGO

The children of Israel were taken captive and carried away from their homeland. When they were offered the king's meat, they refused. These young men had determined in their hearts to follow their beliefs even when they were far from home and family.

RUTH

Ruth was a Moabite widow who had no knowledge of the true God until she met Naomi and her family. When she learned of God, she became determined to follow Him. Her words of promise to her mother-in-law are some of the most beautiful words of faithfulness and steadfastness in the Bible.

Ruth 1:16-17 - But Ruth said, "Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God. 17Where you die I will die, and there will I be buried. May the Lord do so to me and more also if anything but death parts me from you."

[Jeremiah](#)

Often referred to as the weeping prophet, Jeremiah had a heart for the people of God. However, they scorned him, ignored his prophecies, and even threw him into a dry well. After he had spent many days in the well, they pulled him up and asked him if he would change his message of God's judgment, but he refused. He remained steadfast and true to God's call even when it cost him everything.

APOSTLE PAUL

Paul faced much persecution in his ministry. He was chased, beaten arrested, and stoned. Eventually, he was thrown into prison. He was steadfast to do the Lord's work even from a jail cell. Many of the New Testament books were written while Paul was under house arrest in Rome. He is a powerful example how to live with bold, unwavering faith despite times of suffering.

Amid great adversity, David declares his total confidence in God's protection:

*"My heart is steadfast, O God!
I will sing and make melody
with all my being!"
Psalm 108:1, ESV*

A "steadfast" heart is marked by firm determination or resolution. **To be steadfast is to be established, permanent, steady, and unshakeable.** David's whole inner self—his soul—was fixed and firmly settled on trusting God.

With a steadfast heart, David would not be shaken by threatening circumstances or blown about by the winds of misfortune. He repeated the refrain twice in Psalm 57:7, emphasizing his concrete resolve to trust in God: "My heart, O God, is steadfast, my heart is steadfast; I will sing and make music."

Sin is the greatest threat to a steadfast heart. After David committed adultery with Bathsheba and then murdered her husband, Uriah, David's heart was tainted by sin. A year later, Nathan confronted him, and David acknowledged the seriousness of his offenses against God (Psalm 51:3-6). He confessed his transgressions and repented. David also accepted that his sin resulted from a compromised and corrupt heart. David prayed, asking God to remove the stain of sin and restore his steadfastness of heart: "Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me" (Psalm 51:10, NKJV).

The quality of steadfastness belongs to a person who is faithful, reliable, and loyal to the end. Paul encouraged Christians to "be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain" (1 Corinthians 15:58, ESV)

James encouraged believers to embrace trials that test our faith because they produce steadfastness in us: "Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing" (James 1:2-4, ESV). The apostle Peter affirmed, "And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast" (1 Peter 5:10). James considered believers who remain steadfast "blessed" (James 5:11).

Having a steadfast heart is a quality of someone who trusts God under all circumstances. Such a person's life reflects the confident inner conviction that God is sovereignly in control over everything. The New Living Translations renders Psalm 108:1 like so: "My heart is confident in you, O God; no wonder I can sing your praises with all my heart!" No matter how hostile the conditions or how menacing the enemy, a steadfast heart will find the courage to sing out praises to the Lord.

Because we know that the Lord is good we can endure whatever circumstances He has allowed.

A WOMAN WITH STEADFAST FAITH...

So now that we've learned what it means to be steadfast in the Bible, how do we put these truths into action and cultivate a steadfast faith of our own?

♥ HAS A PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

Before you can have a strong, steadfast faith, be sure you have a personal relationship with God. Being a child of God isn't about anything you've done or could ever do.

Instead, it's about believing that Jesus Christ died on the cross for you, and faith in Jesus is the only way to spend eternity with God.

♥ BELIEVES GOD KEEPS HIS PROMISES

God is faithful to keep His promises! Woven throughout Scripture is a beautiful picture of God's faithfulness to His children. Whether you're battling stress and worry, depression and anxiety, wrestling with failure (or insert your greatest struggle), the Lord journeys with you.

Trust God's promises of peace, hope, comfort, and joy can overcome whatever obstacle you're facing.

♥ KNOWS WHERE HER IDENTITY LIES

As a child of God, your identity doesn't lie in your own abilities or strength. The moment you invite Jesus to be Lord and Savior of your life, you are a new creation in Christ. You are no longer a slave to the strongholds that keep you stuck.

When you remember that you're daughter of the King, it keeps you rooted and grounded in what God says about you. You can remember that you are free in Christ and can release your guilt and shame at the foot of the cross.

♥ RELIES ON GOD

Growing a steadfast faith means you make a habit of relying on God and following God's plan for your life. While it can be unsettling to follow God when you don't know where He's leading, a woman with steadfast faith trusts God, even when you don't fully understand His plan.

♥ OBEYS GOD'S COMMANDS

While it's important to know Scripture, it's not enough simply to hear the Word and keep it separate from the rest of your life.

James 1:22 reminds us that we are to live faith in action and be obedient to God's commands. *But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.*

A woman with steadfast faith longs to honor God with her life and seeks to walk in obedience, even when it's not popular or is counter-culture.

♥ STANDS FIRM AGAINST SPIRITUAL WARFARE

While fleeing from temptation may not be easy, Scripture reminds us in Ephesians 6:10-18 that it is possible to overcome temptation by standing firm and putting on the whole armor of God.

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. Ephesians 6:10

A believer with a steadfast faith understands that the temptation they face is no match for the power of God. He has already overcome the darkness and the victory of Christ is no match for the struggles you face!

SIMPLE WAYS TO CULTIVATE A STEADFAST FAITH

The book of James tells us that we will have trials of various kinds in our Christian life. However, you can have perfect peace even through the testing of your faith.

Here are a few simple ways you can build a concrete faith to help you remain steadfast to the will of God.

♥ Read the Bible Faithfully

God's Word is powerful, and it offers us the strength we need to fight the battles of this life. God's steadfast love for us is evident in the pages of the Bible.

Ephesians 6 tells us to "put on the whole armor of God" so that we can stand against false teachings, a world of lies, and the attacks of Satan. God's Word is the source of our steadfast faith.

Cultivating a quiet time with God helps you understand His steadfast character and get to know the heart of your Creator.

♥ Find Accountability

Biblical wisdom tells us that we need one another. Ecclesiastes 2:9-10 says, "Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up."

Surround yourself with people who are also determined to follow God and live faithfully for Him.

♥ Remind Yourself of the Steadfast Love of the Lord

Sometimes we fail as humans but the Lord God of Heaven never stops loving us. When you feel as if you've really messed up, you can rest in knowing that you don't depend on yourself for strength.

Titus 3:5 says, "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;"

Salvation is a gift of God, and not of your own doing. After He saved you, He did not leave you alone.

He will give you the strength you need to be steadfast and faithful to Him in all seasons of life.

7 STRATEGIES OF A STEADFAST SPIRIT

My heart raced, and my breathing was shallow. **“What-ifs” and “should-haves” fought to control my mind.** Like a whirlpool, my thoughts threatened to suck me into a spiral of pointless ponderings. What if more of my family becomes ill? What if we are hospitalized? What if we unknowingly infected someone else? I’d been sick for several days, unable to do much more than lie in bed and think. I lacked the energy and focus to read my Bible or pray. Amidst persistent bouts of anxiety and fear, I asked the Lord what to do.

His answer came in a stern whisper, “Stop spinning!”

This thought left me breathless in a new and encouraging way. While I could not control my physical health, I *could* control what thoughts I entertained, and I *could* allow God to transform me into a new person by changing the way I think (Rm 12:2).

Sometimes, we are tempted to be indecisive, blame others for our problems, or wallow in pits of guilt or self-pity.

Fear and anxiety have a way of consuming and imprisoning us.

Although temptations are inevitable, God promises to provide a way of escape when they come (1 Cor 10:13). In the days that followed, God revealed the unproductive nature of spinning and the importance of a steadfast spirit. Whether our spinning is relational, financial, mental, spiritual, or emotional, we need not stay stuck there. Here are several strategies to a steadfast spirit to help you trade stagnant spinning for intentional progress:

STRATEGY 1: STOP SPINNING

The first strategy is to recognize destructive thoughts and acknowledge unproductive spinning. This powerful step requires us to name our problem and point our finger in its face. When we stop to identify the struggle, we approach the spinning (fear, finances, relationship issues, difficult decisions, etc.) head-on.

Jesus promises to be with us in every moment, in all situations.

This knowledge empowers us to be still (stop) and know that God is God (Ps 46:10). The strength of this simple step surprised me. I often don’t even notice when I am spinning. However, stopping to name my struggle enables me to regain control of my mind.

STRATEGY 2: FORGE AHEAD

Now that we’ve stopped spinning, we must focus our minds on God. Like regaining our balance after riding a merry-go-round, this step allows us to reestablish our spiritual footing.

By focusing on God’s plans and purposes, we position ourselves to move forward.

This is a partnership. When we remind ourselves that God is in control, He grabs hold of our hands to give us a steadfast spirit. Here, we can practice short, powerful phrases to reestablish our footing: I am okay. God is with me. He is in control. He goes before me. He fights for me.

STRATEGY 3: SEEK GOD

Jesus Christ is the answer to every question and the solution to every problem. Once we identify the problem and realign our focus, we can proactively pursue His input. God promises that whenever we seek Him with all our hearts, we will find Him (Jer 29:13, emphasis added).

Seek God through prayer, praise, and Bible reading. You can also ask others to pray for you as you pursue God and seek His steadfast spirit for a particular situation.

When we seek His will in all we do, He will show us which path to take (Pr 3:6).

STRATEGY 4: STEEP IN THE WORD

Like hot water poured over a teabag, we must steep ourselves in the Word. The more we soak ourselves in the truth of God's Word, the stronger we become. As He strengthens us, our discernment grows to recognize our true purpose here on earth. As we spend time in Scripture, we also gain the ammunition we need to fight all our battles. When we hide God's Word in our hearts, we find strength to resist sin (Ps 119:11). Therefore, as we identify each battle, we can do a word or topic study to find scriptural weapons most relevant to our current needs.

STRATEGY 5: STAND YOUR GROUND

Once we have steeped ourselves in truth, we are better equipped to stand our ground.

- ♥ Because God is always with us, we can stand firm in the faith (Eph 6:13).
- ♥ Because of His faithfulness, we can be strong and courageous (1 Cor 16:13).
- ♥ Because He is always with us, we will not be shaken, no matter what we face (Ps 16:8).

STRATEGY 6: STEP OUT IN FAITH

When we clear the cobwebs from our minds, we free ourselves to hear God's voice.

Remember, we can do all things through Christ's strength within us (Phil 4:13).

Armed with confidence, empowered by the Word, and strengthened by God's direction, we can faithfully take the best next step, whatever that may be!

We can accept a different job, buy a new home, or keep doing what we're doing as God guides and directs us.

As Christians, we can speak Truth over fear and utilize the power of prayer to make difficult decisions.

Once we perceive His instruction, we are responsible for obeying His commands (Dt 29:29). We can also rest assured that He will accompany us wherever He asks us to go (Josh 1:9).

STRATEGY 7: SETTLE IN

In order to stop spinning, we must settle into a lifestyle of resting in God. No matter how long our to-do list or how tenuous our circumstances. God promises a steadfast spirit to keep in perfect peace all who trust in Him and fix their thoughts on Him (Is 26:3). He lets us rest in calming places and leads us by quiet streams (Ps 23:2-3). Even when we are walking forward or doing difficult things, we can choose to rest in His peace, power, presence, and provision.

A STEADFAST HEART

One thing greatly lacking in our generation today is steadfast Christians. Many are looking for convenient Christianity rather than truly committing to the things of God.

HAVING A STEADFAST HEART BEGINS WITH A DECISION

“But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king’s meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.” *Daniel 1:8*

Daniel is an example of a steadfast Christian. He was taken captive at a young age and brought into the courts of a foreign kingdom. Compromising the principles he had been taught as a young boy would have been very easy. Making a choice to stand firm could have easily resulted in his death. One does not simply defy a king’s orders.

However, Daniel made a decision to remain faithful no matter the cost. He purposed in his heart to stay true to his convictions.

Making a decision to remain steadfast ahead of time will make it much easier to stand when faced with the choice to compromise. However, there may come a time when we must choose to stand alone just as Daniel had to do..

While rapidly changing, the world is stripping away many of our religious freedoms. We must make a choice now to stand strong in the truth’s of God’s Word.

A STEADFAST HEART REQUIRES A DETERMINATION

Not only did Daniel make a choice to stand for truth, but he was firmly resolute in this decision. Determining to remain steadfast no matter what that choice cost him.

The devil is roaming about seeking those whom he might devour. The only way we are going to defeat him is by standing determinately upon the truth of God’s Word.

“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.” *1 Peter 5:8-9*

If we are going to have a steadfast heart for God, we must determine to be obedient unto His Word. As more and more time goes by and the world gets further away from God, the cost of being obedient is going to be even greater.

By choosing obedience to God’s Word, Daniel remained resolved in his determination. However, not only was he obedient, but he did so with the right spirit.

REMAINING STEADFAST REQUIRES A DEEPENING OF OUR ROOTS

If we are going to withstand the pressures of compromise around us, we must dig our roots deep into the Word of God. This begins with reading, memorizing, and meditating upon God’s Word. And then applying these

♥ HEART CHECK-IN ♥

- ♥ When the waves of life threaten to come crashing in around you, are you steadfast?
- ♥ Are you steadfast in your job
- ♥ Are you steadfast in your relationships
- ♥ Are you steadfast with your church?
- ♥ Are you steadfast in your marriage?
- ♥ Are you steadfast in your parenting?
- ♥ Are you steadfast with your walk in the Lord?
- ♥ Do you allow others to control your emotions, to hit your buttons, and determine the course of your day?
- ♥ Allowing your emotions to be like a rollercoaster and/or easily deceived by the enemy?
- ♥ Areas We want to be steadfast in:
 - Steadfast Faith
 - Steadfast Relationships
 - Steadfast Marriage
 - Steadfast Parenting
 - Steadfast Friend
 - Steadfast in the Word
 - Steadfast in Encouraging Others
 - Steadfast in Sexual Purity
 - Steadfast in Giving Sacrificially
 - Steadfast in the Mission of God
 - Steadfast Mind

"...so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. " Ephesians 4:14

Don't allow yourselves to be shaken.

20 STEADFAST BIBLE VERSES

James 1:12

Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him.

1 Corinthians 15:58

Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

Acts 11:23

When he came and saw the grace of God, he was glad, and he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast purpose,

2 Peter 3:17

You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, take care that you are not carried away with the error of lawless people and lose your own stability.

Galatians 6:9

And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.

Colossians 2:5

For though I am absent in body, yet I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your good order and the firmness of your faith in Christ.

Galatians 5:1

For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

2 Peter 1:8

For if these qualities^[a] are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Psalms 78:8

and that they should not be like their fathers, a stubborn and rebellious generation, a generation whose heart was not steadfast, whose spirit was not faithful to God.

Acts 1:14

All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.

Psalms 112:7

He is not afraid of bad news;
his heart is firm, trusting in the Lord.

Philippians 1:27

Only let your manner of life be worthy^[a] of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel,

1 Peter 5:10

And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.

Job 11:15

Surely then you will lift up your face without blemish; you will be secure and will not fear.

Daniel 6:26

I make a decree, that in all my royal dominion people are to tremble and fear before the God of Daniel, for he is the living God, enduring forever; his kingdom shall never be destroyed, and his dominion shall be to the end

Acts 2:42

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

2 Corinthians 1:7

Our hope for you is unshaken, for we know that as you share in our sufferings, you will also share in our comfort.

Hebrews 3:14

For we have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end.

1 Peter 5:6-10

Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.