

## **A Pastor's Heart**

### **Encouragement from Pastor McGill**

#### **You can handle it**

*1 Corinthians 10:13 There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.*

Whatever you are going through you can handle it. I know how it looks sometimes and how it feels sometimes, but what does the word of God say? We walk by faith and not by sight. The revelation in the above scripture is awesome. Let's examine some things that are promised here.

First, the word temptation here is the Greek word *peirasmos*; it is used here to denote a trying, testing or proving. God does not tempt us to do evil. God does in fact test us all the time. The test causes us to grow and really know where we are in our faith and relationship with the Lord. The devil tempts us to sin against God and solicits us to do evil. Even though the same word is used, the purpose of its use and users are vastly different. The good news is, be it a test by God or a temptation by the devil, you can handle it.

Secondly, this is my favorite part of the verse: but God is faithful. Stop here and meditate on this. When all else fails, God is faithful. This has kept me through many a test and temptation. When I am unfaithful, God is faithful. It means I can depend on God to always be in position, to always keep His word, to always provide help. God knows what I can handle and what I can't handle. The things that I can't handle, I have never had to go through. It's not because I am faithful, it's because God is faithful. This also means every temptation or test that I failed, I could handle. I chose to not make my escape or I chose not to endure. The test allowed me to see where I am spiritually. You may think you have been delivered in an area. You can't truly know until you have been tested in that area. We are promised by the Lord that He would not allow us to be tempted above what we are able to handle. You can handle your children. You can handle your job. You can handle your ministry position. You can handle people in the church. You can handle the beautiful woman or the handsome man. You can handle school. You can handle everything you are facing and are yet to face. The things that you can not handle, God has kept them from you. You have never seen them.

I remember talking to God about this because I was trying to understand why God did not tell Jacob that his son Joseph was alive. Jacob was grieved and hurting and in my natural mind, it bothered me that God would allow Jacob to be grieved for all those 17 years and not tell him that his son was not dead. The Lord let me know that this was a test that Jacob could not handle. Jacob would have used every resource available to rescue Joseph and would have destroyed God's plan and missed out on a blessing for him and his family. God had to keep that from Jacob until the appropriate time because a greater purpose was at work.

Finally, know that God will always provide a way of escape out of temptation. When you are tempted to do evil, learn how to say, ok I can handle this, then begin to look for your escape route. You know God has to provide one, so your eyes and ears should be looking for how can you get out of there now. When you find the escape, don't hesitate or tarry as Lot's wife did. Take the Holy Transportation to safety that God has provided for you. **YOU CAN HANDLE IT.** Make it a great day.

#### **Blessings and Peace**

*Pastor McGill*