



October 17, 2016

Opportunity

“Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness.” (James 1:2)

Have you ever asked the question, “what in the world is God doing right now?” Has one of your players ever come to you in total despair and in need of encouragement? We have all faced trials and difficulties during seasons of our life. We are sure to face many more weather on a personal level or through our role as a coach, husband, father, son, or friend.

It is important for us to remember that God is using the difficulties of life as tools of grace to produce in us Godly character. Character that would not grow in any other way.

At FCA Baseball we are uniquely positioned to use the game of baseball to point to these difficult moments and times in our lives and during a season and use them as a tool of grace to reach players, coaches, and all we influence for Christ.

Your trials, and those of your individual players, are not a sign that God has forgotten about us or doesn't care. Instead they stand as reminders that he is committed to working in us, through us and will never, ever forsake us!

God's job isn't to exercise his power and step in and make our life easy and deliver us a sense of happiness. He is not committing to us a winning season. He is not guaranteeing your players that they will have league leading statistics. No, he has much more planned for us!

He is committed to transformation. He wants to transform you into the coach, husband, father, son, friend and man of faith that he has intended for you since your creation. He is committed to building you and your players into Christ-centered men of faith.

Your response? As James says, “remain steadfast under trial.” Don't let the enemy win. Keep battling. Insist that you and your players – both on and off the field - have “quality at bats.” Rely on your good habits of faith and in the process of transformation. Do not be forsaken. Instead stand on your faith. Never question God's goodness for you.

Consider your trials as an opportunity! An opportunity for His grace to complete His work in you.

Questions: Are you battling through a difficult time? Is the enemy attacking? Are you wondering what God is doing right now and where He is?

Challenge: Thank God today for the opportunity for Him to use your trial as a time to continue to transform you into the man he wants you to be. Stay steadfast through your difficult time and stand upon your habit of good faith.

Prayer: Thank you Lord for your tools of grace. Thank you for caring enough for me, my family, and my players to afford us an opportunity to be transformed by you. Grant me the courage and boldness to withstand the enemy and “remain steadfast under trial.”

-- Todd Burger – NOVA/DC FCA Baseball