

**Faith Under Fire**  
**“Real Faith In The Face of Adversity”**

May 21, 2017  
Brian Eberly, Associate Pastor



Life is not always an easy journey. Often times it does not go according to plan. It is in those moments of pain, hurt, and disappointment that we must trust Jesus. It is in those moments that our faith is refined, made stronger, and more real.

## Four Marks of Real Faith

### 1. Real faith \_\_\_\_\_.

*“But when Daniel learned that the law had been signed, he went home and knelt down as usual in his upstairs room, with its windows open toward Jerusalem. He prayed three times a day, just as he had always done, giving thanks to God.” Daniel 6:10 (NLT)*

*“We are pressed on every side by troubles, but we are not crushed. We are perplexed, but not driven to despair. <sup>9</sup> We are hunted down, but never abandoned by God. We get knocked down, but we are not destroyed.” 2 Corinthians 4:8-9 (NLT)*

*“That is why we never give up. Though our bodies are dying, our spirits are being renewed every day.” 2 Corinthians 4:16 (NLT)*

- When faced with trial remember \_\_\_\_\_
- Trial provides opportunity \_\_\_\_\_.

*“Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. <sup>3</sup> For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. <sup>4</sup> So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.” James 1:2-4 (NLT)*

### 2. Real faith \_\_\_\_\_.

*“For our present troubles are small and won’t last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever! <sup>18</sup> So we don’t look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever.” 2 Corinthians 4:17-18 (NLT)*

Listen to this message at [foothillsonline.com](http://foothillsonline.com)

Page 1

- When faced with troubles \_\_\_\_\_.

**3. Real faith** \_\_\_\_\_.

*“Yes, we live under constant danger of death because we serve Jesus, so that the life of Jesus will be evident in our dying bodies.” 2 Corinthians 4:11 (NLT)*

**4. Real faith is** \_\_\_\_\_.

*“So Daniel prospered during the reign of Darius and the reign of Cyrus the Persian.” Daniel 6:28 (NLT)*

Listen to this message at [foothillsonline.com](http://foothillsonline.com)

---

### Discussion Questions

1. Review the story of Daniel. Put yourself in his shoes. How easy or hard would it have been for you to remain faithful under his circumstances?
2. Share your story. Have you experienced adversity in your life and remained faithful to God? What was the result? What does your faith look like today because of your experiences?
3. Read 2 Corinthians 4:17-18. Discuss the *“things we cannot see.”* What are they? Have you experienced them?
4. Part of clinging to Jesus in the face of adversity is clinging to one another. Is there someone in your group facing difficult times now? Spend some time encouraging and praying for one another.

Listen to this message at [foothillsonline.com](http://foothillsonline.com)

Page 2