

#### 2 Corinthians 10:4-6

- 4. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds,
- 5. casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,
- 6. and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled.

### Obstacles are part of the Christian Journey

#### John 16:33

"In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

#### James 1:2-4

Count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

# **Overcoming Obstacles**

1 John 5:4

For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.

#### Servants of God who Face Obstacles

- Abraham who faced the trial of leaving his homeland, then the years of infertility.
- Joseph was sold into slavery.
- Moses wandered in the wilderness forty years.
- Ruth lost her husband.
- Nehemiah had to fight off naysayers.
- Daniel was thrown into a lion's den.
- Paul wrote some of his best work while in prison.

# Trust in God for strength and wisdom

#### Isaiah 12:2

"Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. The Lord, the Lord himself, is my strength and my defense; he has become my salvation"

We must depend on God for the strength, wisdom, and guidance to overcome these strongholds in our life.

#### **Bible Truths**

- Put aside all sinful behaviors. (Hebrews 12:1)
   Some Obstacles we construct ourselves.
- Obstacles in our mind. (2 Cor 10:4-6)
   Mind Obstacles and negative thoughts
- God placed Obstacles. (Genesis 50:20 & Joshua 3)
   God will use obstacles to fulfill His purpose.

#### 1. Put aside all sinful behaviors.

#### Hebrews 12:1

Let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.

# 2 Corinthians 10:4 For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down

strongholds,

# **Weapons Checklist**

#### **Ephesian 6:13-18**

- The belt of truth That hold you up.
- The breast plate of Righteousness protects your heart
- The shield of faith protect you from the worldly darts
- The helmet of salvation Keeps your mind on Jesus
- The sword of truth Which is the word of God

### **Ephesian 1:19 - 20**

"Understand the incredible greatness of God's power for us who believe him. This is the same mighty power. That raised Christ from the dead and seated him in the place of honor at God's right hand in the heavenly places."

#### 2 Corinthians 10:5

We Casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ.



Taking Every
Thought
Captive

The key to overcoming these thoughts is to first deal with what we Allow our minds to focus on and realign our thinking to be on par with the Word of God.



**Roman 12:2** 

Do not conform to the pattern of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

#### 2 Corinthians 10:5

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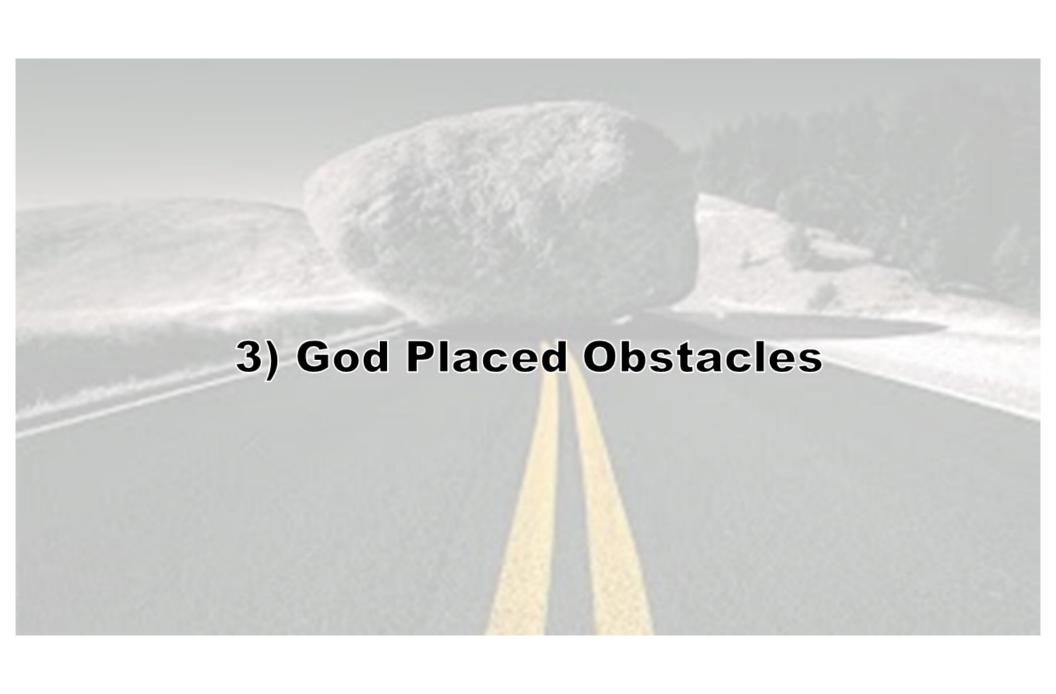
Roman 8:31.

If God is for us!

Know that nothing is too hard for God.

Jeremiah 32:27 "I am the Lord, the God of all mankind. Is anything too hard for me?"

Who can be against us!



# 3) God Uses Obstacles to Fulfill His Purposes.

Genesis 50:20

Joseph told his bothers "You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives"

God Uses Obstacles

# 3) God Uses Obstacles to Fulfill His Purposes.

If we want to overcome the insurmountable obstacles that hold us captive in life, the first step is for us is to:

- Follow God
- · Remain in His presence:
- Wherever God goes, we must follow.

# 3) God Uses Obstacles to Fulfill His Purposes.

Joshua 3:8

You shall command the priests who bear the ark of the covenant, saying, 'When you have come to the edge of the water of the Jordan, you shall stand in the Jordan.'

#### Isaiah 43:1-3

"The Lord who created you says, 'Do not be afraid – I will save you. I have called you by name – you are mine. When you pass through deep waters, I will be with you; your troubles will not overwhelm you.

When you pass through fire, you will not be burnt; the hard trials that come will not hurt you. For I am the Lord your God, the holy God of Israel who saves you...You are precious to me.

Do not be afraid – I am with you!"

