

Stay close to Jesus

"Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you."-James 4:8

At the beginning of the year, I was faced with a giant that shook my faith. A friend said these words to me; "Stay close to Jesus." I didn't quite understand what he meant then because I thought I had always been close to Jesus and frankly didn't think much of the advice especially during that time.

As I went through that season, these words kept ringing in my mind and have been to this day. Through scripture and prayer, I slowly began to piece together what staying close to Jesus looks like and learned to do the following:

- Turning to the voice of God within and not the voices around.
- Replacing worry with prayer
- Looking to God and not the problem
- Understanding that He is a jealous God and that our allegiance belongs to Him alone.
- Knowing that in Jesus we can find power to stand strong and still.
- Finding peace, provision, hope, help, victory and many more in Jesus.

Sometimes life gets tough and may not always make sense but staying close to Jesus, giving Him total control and trusting in Him is key.

It doesn't matter how long it has been since you last talked to God, how big that giant in front of you looks. Getting closer to Jesus and staying there will give you clarity. He will show you things and open doors in this season that you never expected. Knowing that Jesus is right beside us and that we can lean on Him no matter what comes our way, can be our greatest comfort.

The enemy is aware of this truth and therefore will always try to pull us farther away from it especially when we are faced with trials. He tries to confuse us with fear, anger, frustration and shame; making us doubt God's grace and love for us.

With Jesus by our side, we have the power to stand strong and not fall for these lies any longer. Once we've gotten closer to Jesus, we learn the truth about who He is and realize that He is the ultimate solution. The enemy can do his worst but in Jesus, we can rest assured that we are safe.

"You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You"- Isaiah 26:3

Let us draw near and stay close to Jesus. Let us cling to Jesus and allow Him to wrap His loving arms around us and keep us in perfect peace.

-Diana