

# LIVING ON THE EDGE

Living on the edge is adventurous, on the brink of danger or uncertainty or unconventional.

A living on the edge personality desires to risk beyond what most people would do. Pushing your horizons be it physical, mental or otherwise.

However, I would like to use the phrase living on the edge to mean living near the **fine line** that divides one thing from and another.

## 1. LIVING ON THE EDGE BETWEEN LOVING AND SUFFERING.

There is a fine line between loving and suffering, and we often find ourselves having to live near the edge between the two.

It is possible to suffer without loving but it is not possible to truly love without suffering.

Jesus was the greatest lover and was the one who suffered the most.

**Loving Hurts: Jesus was hurt and suffered for our sins.**

*1 Peter 3:18 (kjv) "Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God."*

Jeremiah speaks of his own hurt and spoke prophetically of Christ being hurt for the hurt of God's people.

*Jeremiah 8:21 (kjv) For the hurt of the daughter of my people am I hurt; I am black; astonishment hath taken hold on me.*

*(NLT) I hurt with the hurt of my people. I mourn and am overcome with grief.*

*Lamentations 1:12 (niv) "Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by? Look around and see. Is any suffering like my suffering that was inflicted on me, that the Lord brought on me in the day of his fierce anger?"*

Isaiah the prophet also refers to Jesus as a man of sorrows...acquainted with grief, wounded and bruised, smitten of God and afflicted. *Isaiah 53:3-5*

## **2. LIVING ON THE EDGE OF COMPASSION AND BEING HURT/DISAPPOINTED.**

Living on the edge is like being disappointed because we are unable to do anything to help.

**It hurts - because we care.**

Living on the edge between passionately desiring to express love and care for people, but we are unable to for reasons beyond our control.

This creates tension and conflict within us which hurts, irritates that makes us feel disappointed.

Learn to manage the inner conflict / tension so it does not cause us to succumb to despondency.

This inner tension will always be with us as long as we continue to desire to love and show compassion to others.

Don't stop loving and showing compassion so that you may avoid pain and discomfort.

The real tragedy of the Good Samaritan parable in *Luke 10:30-34* is that nothing happened on the inside of either of the two representatives of God - there was no love, no concern, no compassion - nothing felt by them towards the wounded and dying man by the roadside.

*1 John 3:17 (hb) If anyone has this world's goods and sees his brother in need but shuts off his compassion from him - how can God's love reside in him?*

We must maintain the compassion factor in our lives even though we may not be able to express it in a practical way.

This may result in us becoming disappointed. However, this cannot stop loving and caring for others.

### **3. LIVING ON THE EDGE BETWEEN OF THE FINE LINE BETWEEN THE FACTS OF LIFE AND THE TRUTH.**

It's about those events that are happening to us which are actual and the truth as in Gods Word.

Life's journey throws up all kinds of events and we find ourselves living on the edge of that line that divides truth from facts or fiction.

To cope with the events of our outer (public) world, is by ordering our inner (private) world.

**Our INNER world** is what is happening on the inside of us. Our thoughts, emotions, attitudes and our responses to the different things / events (imaginary or actual) that we at any given time.

**Our OUTER world** is the things that are actually taking place in the physical world around us.

**Events just appear, which we cannot control.**

So, order our inner world by setting rules or boundaries for what we allow to be a part of our thoughts, attitudes and actions they are consistent with what is true from God's Word.

We can control our responses, so we can still successfully continue moving forward for God.

**There are many times when we don't know what to do. So, do what we know to be right.**

There are many times when we do not have the answers to “why” this or that has happened.

## **WHAT I DON'T' KNOW**

- Why some people are healed, and others are not.

*Luke 4:27 (niv) And there were many in Israel with leprosy in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed - only Naaman the Syrian.*

- Why some good people suffer injury and others don't?
- Why some people die prematurely before their time?
- Why the wicked prosper and the just suffer?
- Why some people choose to use the testimony of someone who didn't get their questions or prayers answered to prove that God is not real, or that He doesn't answer prayer.

*Romans 3:3-4 (kjv) For what if some did not believe? shall their unbelief make the faith of God without effect? 4: God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar; as it is written, that thou mightest be justified in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged.*

**Don't try to defend or attempt to give answers to the why's that people have.**

**Refuse to live in the world of questioning and reasoning the why's because it is a one-way street to an unsatisfied and unfulfilled life.**

Choose to live in what we do know and keep your focus there.

## **THIS IS WHAT I DO KNOW**

- That God is good.
- What God does is always right.
- He is just in all His ways. He is merciful, gracious and kind – without question.
- He is compassionate and understanding.
- He is longsuffering and slow to anger.
- He is faithful and can be depended upon at all times.
- There is nothing made that exists that he didn't make.

*Psalms 145:15-16 (kjv) The eyes of all wait upon thee; and thou givest them their meat in due season. 16: Thou openest thine hand, and satisfiest the desire of every living thing.*

- He made peace between He and us through the blood of the cross.

- God cannot lie and can be trusted.
- What God has promised He will not fail to keep.
- He cannot be unfaithful.
- He will not forsake us or leave us as orphans.
- He is Omnipotent (all powerful).
- He is Omnipresent (every where at all times).
- He is Omniscient (knowing all).
- He is the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God our saviour *1 Timothy 1:17*.
- He is majestic and has honour, glory, dominion and power now and forever *Jude 25*.
- God has forgiven and saved us.
- He has accepted us and received us as one of His own.
- I am reconciled and no longer an enemy of God. We are His purchased possession.
- He has made us a brand-new person - the old has gone and the new has come.
- There is now no more condemnation - sentence of guilt.
- That
- God is for me and not against me, all things work together for my good.
- No tribulation or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?  
*Romans 8:35* will be able to separate me from the love of God in Christ Jesus

**This is the world that I choose to live each day! I have set the order of my mind and the thoughts I am to actively focus on.**

*Philippians 4:8 (nlt) And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise.*