

Even If!

So I go, not knowing,
I would not, if I might;
I'd rather walk in the
dark with God,
Than go alone in the
light;
I'd rather walk by faith
with Him,
Than walk alone by sight.
-Mary S. B.



12th June, 2023

“It took a while to understand the beauty of letting go!”

A real soldier, even if he loses the battle, tries again! If he gets knocked down, he doesn't just lie there, he gets up & fights again! So no matter what happens tomorrow, Lord, that doesn't mean the end of her trying to be a blessing & helping others. It might be just a test, Lord.

Dear Family,

1. I love you! I'm so proud of each of you for your dedication to the Lord's service and for following Him wherever He leads--whether it be through the flower-filled fields with cool streams, across the rushing rivers, over the high mountain passes, or even sometimes through the barren deserts! You certainly are heroes of the faith--**even if** you often don't feel like it! You may feel like you're struggling or just barely making it, and may not consider yourself much at all; but to the Lord, you're heroes, because you've held on through thick and thin!

2. There were many times when God's great men and women in the Bible or throughout the ages felt like giving up. But what made them great was that they persevered and kept on going, even when everything seemed to be going wrong in the natural, or even though they felt discouraged, tired and worn. (See 2Cor.4:8-18.) They had faith and trust that the Lord was going to pull them through, and that all things would work together for good--which they did! Of course, they couldn't always see it right away, and some even "died in faith, not having received the promises." But because they had the Heavenly vision, and had "seen them (the promises) afar off, they were persuaded of them and embraced them"--by faith! And that's why "God is not ashamed to be called their God"--or yours!

3. So Lord help us to keep the Heavenly vision, and not get our minds too focused on the little time we have here on Earth, and its problems, difficulties and hardships. That's not to say the problems don't exist or that we should just ignore them and pretend they're not there, but rather we should, like Moses, "endure as seeing Him Who is invisible," having "respect unto the recompense of our reward!" (Hebrews 11:13,16,27,26). (The Silver Lining!--Trusting the Lord for Our Young People Who've Left the Family Maria #419 CM/FM 3166 10/97 By Maria)

(Dad, to Mama:) I've been watching the young people and praying desperately for them during this time of purging and change. It's so important that you pray for our young people!

I've been watching my bellwethers and shepherds, and I've been seeing which ones stand head and shoulders above the crowd because of their faith and their love for you--those who are willing to follow wherever you lead. You need to find the young people who are willing to do that, and use them. Now and in the near future, in the dark days to come, that's what's really going to count in the young people that you choose to train.

What's really going to matter is: Are they receiving the New Wine? Are they following you and Peter? **(When they believed in the Words of David!)** Do they believe what the Family stands for? Because if they lack in these gifts and in this strength, no matter how gifted they are in other areas, they will fail!

Seek out from among the flocks the young people who have faith in you and your Words, and my Words, and who are willing to live the revolutionary life that Jesus has set before you. Because they will be tested, and only those of great faith and loyalty will be able to stand strong and continue to raise the standard and the rallying cry for their peers. If they have great faith, **even if** they're shaken, even if they're taken aback by the New Wine that's coming, they'll be able to stand strong.

It's a time of purging and testing! It's so important that you have these sold-out young people to be a sample, to rally the troops and to turn the tide of the Evil One, for he is seeking to sweep away this young generation! He is seeking to steal away my hope of the future!

But Jesus and I will not let him succeed! Though Satan has desired to have these, that he may sift them as wheat, we have prayed for them that their faith will not fail! But they need examples. They need those who are strong and loyal to the Kingdom, those who do not have doubts, and who have great, great love. So find them and raise them up! Train them and strengthen them, for you will need them in the days to come. (FJWL2:43)

45. But His closest disciples stayed--the 12 whom He had handpicked because He knew that they had what it took to stick with Him no matter what! Why did they stay?--Because they knew He had the truth! Like Peter said, "To whom shall we go? Thou alone hast the Words of eternal life" (John 6:68). They were new bottles! They were so sold out to their cause that it didn't matter what New Wine came along, they were going to flow with it! They trusted Jesus, even if they didn't always understand everything He said right away. (Hold on to Your Crown ML# 1207)

ML#M:13 Most Christians can have faith under normal conditions for usual situations--what they expect God to do--but only those with great faith like Job when everything goes wrong & seems contrary to the Word & the usual--only those with great faith can say with Job, "Even though He slay me yet will I trust Him." What Job was saying was, "***Even though it seems like God is breaking His own Word with me--even though God kills me contrary to all His promises, I'll still trust Him.***" He was saying with the three Hebrew children in the fiery furnace, "God can do it, but ***even if*** He doesn't, we'll still trust Him." (Dan.3:21) (Trust the Lord)

6th April, 2023(Prophecy) You know not the way before you or where it will lead to, but can you take My hand My love, My dearest darlingest bride, love of My life, and trust Me that I know, as a Husband, who is devoted to you and above all else has your welfare in His hands, caring for your every detail? You yourself may not know what's up ahead but I do. Can you trust Me for that, as you do an earthly husband? Eh, the hundred times a hundred more so!! But the question is, will you? If you decide to put your life in My hands, then you will go forth, ***even if*** you know not all that is before you. There are so many unanswered questions and unknowns, but it is the 'walk by faith and not by sight' life that I have chosen for you. The question is, will you choose this way? You will have to choose this way many times, over and over. Try as you might to imagine all the possible outcomes, you simply cannot. You have to let all the questions fall away and lock your eyes on Me and the Keys, trusting that I will continue to buoy you up. It is a complete surrender; a laying of your dearest on the altar of sacrifice. You have to love Me more and be so intimately connected that I am all that matters and you love Me so much that you will give up even your dearest in this life for Me. Tears flow and your heart aches at this intolerable crushing that you feel you cannot survive, but if I be lifted I will draw you to My bosom. Are you sighing after the kiss of My mouth above all else? If you are not then you will expire and faint for lack of the sustenance of My Word. Draw nigh to Me and then I will draw ever so close to you, because I know you want it and you are sucking and desirous of My kisses. And when you are full of My love then everything will turn out right because you have Me and the Keys. If you go forth and put your trust in Me then ***even if*** you know not all that's up ahead, you will find I am your all in all. So go forth My love... (End of prophecy)

In other words, we have to look beyond what we're going through and facing today to the long-term goal, the rewards, the happiness, the surcease from the battle. We have to look to the time when we will have the victory, and that will give us the strength to keep going. All of that is part of keeping the heavenly vision.

Mystical Bible The New Good News Blog "The Secret Is to Let Go" By mystical bible OCT 19, 2022

I walk with you

My strong tower is there, and ***even if*** you forget all your class material and drop your pencil and seem to yourself a flat failure, I see your heart and I understand your motives, and I will embrace you in your time of desperate need. Fear not the tempter, for I have allowed him to singe you, but your life is safe within the shadow of My arms. Deep in the arms of Jesus abideth perfect peace. When all about you seems thwart with danger and uncertainty, when in the darkness the

enemy's threatenings haunt and taunt you, draw My cloak around you and come deeper in, and My spirit will sustain you until the tempest is past. I walk with you; do not doubt. I walk with you to bring you through. I am here. Do you feel My hand in yours? Our love only grows stronger as the enemy tries harder to pull you away from the pillar of light. The darkness cannot hold My crystal as it turns toward the Light. It is impossible to hold it. The darkness must let go. Come, My love, come and snuggle up with all the other crystals who have abandoned the world of darkness for My pillar of light and freedom. The secret, My dove, is in letting go...

"Just as Noah was in the ark seven days before the flood came, safe and secure with Me, so will you be kept safely during the 7 years prior to the great Endtime deluge that will forever take away the world of unbelieving man."

"My Kingdom is within you and all around you, and one day very soon, you will be taken from this world, just as I was lifted up by the hand of My Father to My reward, so will you be. But until then you are required on the earth plane as My representatives. But I have not left you comfortless or without the facilities to perform your duty for Me."

"Say, 'I call on the keys,' and they will immediately be released to attend and assist you in any way you need them."

even if.....

63. (From Rebecca:) I love you! I just wanted to write a little reaction to something that was mentioned in "The Silver Lining." I have several brothers and sisters who are not in the Family. They each left for various reasons, and it has been a burden on my heart for some time.

64. This GN was helpful in many ways, answering a lot of the questions I had, but at the same time there were some things in it that were a bit hard for me to receive. The reason is because a couple of my younger sisters left from a very difficult situation. They were sent out fundraising for hours a day, every day for months. They didn't have good shepherding, were very discouraged, and felt we were no longer the missionaries we claimed to be. They were living with some other "bad apples," and I tended to feel that all these outside circumstances hurt my sisters and that they couldn't be blamed for the choice they made to leave the Family. I knew, of course, that what the Lord and Dad were saying in the GN was true, but I had a hard time receiving some of the message, because I had felt that the burdens that were placed upon my sisters around the time they left the Family were too much for them to carry.

65. I was telling Misty* that I felt some of the teens that left had been in such difficult circumstances, and I wondered if it was really right to place the responsibility on them for such a major decision. She shared with me her testimony of going through the pre-RNR days of the Chain, and the difficulties and abuses that she and many of our FG adults experienced. I realized when talking to her that the FG adults at that point in time were young people--in their early twenties--and unlike us (the second generation), they had only been in the Family for a short time. It helped bring things into focus for me, and it gave me a better understanding of the point that the Lord and Dad bring out in this Letter.

*(Editor: Misty is one of Mama's secretaries.)

66. Misty told me: "I can understand how difficult it must be for you to have had your sisters leave under those circumstances. If our friends or sisters or brothers leave the Family, it's natural to feel angry. You really want to blame someone else. I can easily see how you'd think that, if the circumstances had been better, maybe your sisters would have been able to hang on.

67. "But just to bring up the other side a little more, it helps to remember that there are plenty of people in the Family who had it pretty bad but who stuck it out. I was just one of quite a few who went through some very difficult times in the pre-RNR days. I personally was really tested after the arrival of the first big Chain leaders in Latin America, in what was termed the 'Bloodless Coup' (see ML #329A)!

68. "I was no angel, of course. I had made some mistakes, and I probably deserved to be reprimanded for it. But the correction was extreme. Not only that, it was super hypocritical. The leaders were cruel, unreasonable, and the whole affair was very scary. The worst of it was that I knew that they were actually trying to get rid of me. They were jealous and had it in for me, and I knew they wanted me to leave the Family. But I was determined that no matter what, I was going to make it. No matter how difficult the circumstances, no matter how discouraged I got, no matter how mean they were to me, no matter how ostracized I felt, I was going to hold on.

69. "I had been banished to a very out-of-the-way Home from which my husband and I were told we were not to leave. We were blacklisted, with our every move being monitored and reported on.

70. "Many times during these months and months of punishment that seemed unending, I felt completely in despair, and would cry out to the Lord, saying, 'I don't care what happens, as long as I can still read the Letters. Just don't let them take the Letters away from me!' I lived to read the Letters. I would wake at 4:30 in the morning, so I could read the Word!

71. "That happened 23 years ago, and at that time we FGAs were very young, too. I'd only been in the Family for 3 and a half years. I didn't know that much Word, and had had relatively little spiritual input and training. Also, back in 1975 there was pretty much no such thing as personal shepherding. I didn't have anyone to talk to, and I didn't realize I could have the Lord shepherd me through prophecy. There was no address to write to if I wanted to appeal to a higher authority. There was no Charter outlining Family members' rights and responsibilities, and I couldn't leave and go to another situation that was better, because for a very long time we were not given clearance to go to another field. I knew that what was happening was wrong, but all I could do was trust the Lord that eventually, somehow, sometime, the Lord would show Dad, and things would get straightened out--which they did!

72. "**I decided that if I wanted the Word more than anything else, then I'd stick no matter what.** I'm not the only one who made this personal commitment. Lots of us around that time said, 'To whom shall we go?' The Family alone has the Words of eternal life in the form of the living Words of the Lord, Dad and Mama!

73. "A few years later, the Letter 'New Brooms' came out, and there was a quote in there that really helped me to understand what had been going on. Dad said: 'Some of you have done a good faithful job, you've worked hard and you've done well. You've been kicked around a lot and yet survived it!--When you were misused and abused when you weren't to blame; when men spoke evil of you, you still stood by your convictions. When you've been kicked around and still stayed true, still loved the Lord, still loved the kids, still loved the Letters, still believed in me and went on anyway, you've passed a good test! When your leaders fail you and then blame you for things that are really their fault, that's a good test!' (ML #675:1,2).

74. "The key words for me in that passage were '**you've passed a good test.**' When I read that, it was like a light went on in my heart! In later years I experienced other difficult times, but I always remembered this quote and this early experience, and reminded myself that the Lord allows these times as a test, and I determined, by God's grace, that I'd pass the test." (End of comment from Misty, and Rebecca's note.) (Hold on to Your Crown ML# 1207)

What if God quit every time we Christians gave Him a lot of trouble?--Then we'd all be in a big mess! The Bible says that we, the Christian believers, are the Body of Christ! (See 1 Corinthians 12:27.) What if God quit every time we, His face, break out in a bunch of ugly spots and pimples and boils and acne and whatnot? We're the only face He's got and He's got to keep going no matter how ugly we are or how badly His Body behaves sometimes, in spite of what Jesus tells it to do!

He's got to keep on going **even if** we get ourselves all tangled up and in a big mess! He's got to keep on trying to pull us through and teach every part of His Body coordination and how to function properly and operate smoothly and gracefully instead of all jerky and twisted and grotesque like the spiritually handicapped people we so often are! He's got to keep on trying to teach us how to talk **even if** we seem to be tongue-tied! He's got to keep on yelling loud enough so we'll listen, even when we've got our fingers in our ears trying not to! He's got to keep on trying to make us see the Truth and read it in the Bible even when we're so spiritually sleepy we'd rather shut our eyes and drift off into the Devil's dreamland! And He's got to try to make us bear spiritual fruit, little spiritual babes, new Christians, even a few sick and misshapen ones rather than none at all! All this when much of the time much of His Body or Bride are doing their best to keep from bearing babies by being so rebellious toward God that He can't even have a love relationship with them! That's the kind of Body God has to put up with! So why should you be griping about a few little afflictions?--Look at the mess God's Body is in! Only the Love, grace and mercy of God can ever pull her through by faith and obedience to His Word, or she'd never make it!

So if you've got real faith you'll keep on going for God **even if** it kills you!--And it will kill you, in the sense that it means death to self and pride and all that self-righteousness as you die daily (See 1 Corinthians 15:31) in your service for the Lord! I've often felt like quitting because I'm so stupid and make so many blunders and have so many sins! I don't see how anyone or even God can possibly love me or put up with me!--But He does, so I keep on going! I refuse to quit because I believe God! Therefore I know I have to obey Him and I don't dare quit! (But If Not!)

A lot of these storms of life come quick, the Devil tries to strike quick to catch you by surprise & scare you into quitting, & of course if you quit then he's won, right? But if you refuse to quit, the Devil can never stop a guy who refuses to quit, not even if it kills him. If he martyrs him, why he's given his last witness, his last testimony, & he didn't stop him, he just promoted him. He can't stop our rain, PTL! So, Jesus help us, Lord. Thank You for the storm, thank You for the rain, even thank You for the lightning bolts that test people's faith & their fears!

23. WELL, SEEMS LIKE EVERYTHING'S GETTING HOTTER ALL AROUND & THIS STORM IS ALMOST LIKE AN ILLUSTRATION OF IT. Storms especially in the Tropics often come fast, strike suddenly, but then they go quickly too, TTL! It doesn't go on raining & drizzling for weeks & weeks like it does in some places where I've been or we've been. (Thunder) It's staying just about a mile away, TTL! Maybe the Lord had told it, "Thus far & no further," huh? The Lord must want me to finish this little talk. A storm is like a test of your faith, & we were quoting Scriptures a while ago & the Devil didn't like that so he got one bolt a little bit closer.

26. SO THE STORM & THE FIRE & THE TRIALS & THE TRIBULATIONS & THE TESTS ARE ALL FOR WHAT PURPOSE? Yes, to test your strength as a tree or your purity as gold & to give you a chance to battle the Devil & see if you'll give up or if you'll keep on fighting & trust the Lord. (Why Fails?)

Reality: ***Even if*** everything around you changes, Jesus doesn't change, and His love and care and promises don't change. (Dad:) God moves. He is a moving God. He is never still. He is always doing, going, saying, effecting change in every sphere of creation. He is never static, except for Himself. "I am the Lord: I change not."

As for all else, "The mountains shall be made low, that which He has exalted shall be abased, and the low places shall be exalted. He that is of a humble and contrite heart, in due time shall be highly exalted, until time shall be no more, and the Kingdom of our Lord is come, where He that ruleth in righteousness shall judge the earth and establish everlasting peace, and the Kingdom shall never fall, neither shall it be given unto others." It shall be forever! And we shall rule and reign with Him upon the earth ... "For the things which are seen are temporal!"--for a little while--"but the things which are not seen are eternal." ("All Things Change, But Jesus Never," ML #6:7,8.)

(Jesus:) The life of a disciple is not stable or comfortable in lifestyle. It is stable in spirit--more stable than anything else--because you have Me as your foundation, and I'm the only One stable enough to give the promise that "I am with you always, even unto the end of the world," and "I will never leave you nor forsake you." **No one else can promise that.** There is no other guarantee like that in the universe. **That is the guarantee of a disciple. That is the "God factor" that you can believe in, trust in, and even stake your life on.** ("Faith for the Future," ML #3487:113.)

53. The battles are fierce, but you keep moving forward. You may not be running unhindered and effortlessly slaughtering the Enemy's forces, but you are standing your ground and moving forward, ***even if*** it takes great effort. You are conquering his kingdom step by step. He is throwing everything he's got at you and he is unable to stop you! It feels like a tough victory and a slow one, but it's clearly a victory!

54. It takes great faith to face what looks like failure and defeat in some area and still keep standing on My Word, on My promises. You sometimes feel weary, exhausted, discouraged, and can't see the victory or even the potential for victory. Virtually every great man or woman of faith throughout history has had to face those times--sometimes for many years, sometimes until the point of death. Yet no matter how long the struggle, living for Me and holding on to your faith is the ultimate victory.

56. The Offensive is going to happen. ***The Tribulation is going to come. The fruits, miracles, and wonders that I have promised will come to pass. But the preparations that will make each of you into the "do or die," "trust, whatever may come" powerhouses of those days, will stretch you to what will seem to be the limit and beyond.***

57. You may often look defeated in your own eyes, but your commitment, your do-or-die spirit of refusing to let go of the promises, even when everything looks lost and contrary to logic and reason, is the greatest victory of all. (Faith—Now and Forever)

Thank You for everything You've ever done for me. Thank You for everything that's ever happened to me in my whole life. Thank You for every single thing, even the disappointments, because I know they were all from Your hand. ***Even if*** they weren't directly from Your hand, they were allowed by You to see how I would react—to train me and to teach me to draw closer to You. You wanted to teach me the talent of rising above situations, and praising You for them. You wanted to help me to see that You are in all situations. You've allowed them in order to test my faith, to see if I believed that You would get victories out of seeming defeats.

Thank You, Jesus, for every time that I've been between a rock and a hard place. I know it's been because of Your specific love for me, Your love tailored to me. I thank You for everything that's ever happened to me—the successes and the seeming defeats. I thank You for them, Jesus. I praise You for them. I praise Your glorious name. I praise Your love for me. Thank You, Lord. (My King and I)

HAB.2:1 *I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reproved.*

9th July, 2023 Jesus, please speak to me... open my channel, please loosen it and unclog it. Release your wine My lover. I thirst, I need. Precious Love, You've given us so much wealth, so many treasures and you spoil us ridiculously, but don't stop because I love it. I wouldn't want to be anyone else, in no other place, doing anything differently, on this earth at least, and for now, at least. I want to be standing on my watch dear Jesus... for You, because You've asked it of us. I'm watching now to see what you will say to me. Take me into Your realm dear sweet Husband. I adore You. I love You so very much. I can't wait to see You and be with You. I want to come Home. Isn't it time yet? It's not nice down here. Please make it go quickly. Come Jesus...we bid You dear majestic King and Lord, to come! Hear our cries. We groan as in travail, as does all the earth and Your children. Hear our prayers dear Lover of our souls. We search the skies for Your majesty, for Your mighty steed! Come and take us away. It is so rotten down here it threatens to melt away for the decay and debauchery and evil. So very evil! Come and rescue Your brides dear One. The call has been made long enough, don't You think? Satan must be brought down and all his minions. Vindicate us dear Jesus! Too much evil and hurt and destruction! Too much pain and suffering! Please end it all, Jesus. Your Kingdom come, Your will be done! We need You so desperately! Hasten Your return dear Husband. We pant for You.

(Prophecy) Jesus:- I love to hear your cries for Me My love, My bride. I see you have been busy preparing for Me. I have been watching! I peep through the veil of your boudoir and see your lovely daily 'ablutions' with 'sacred containers and ointments'. I see your desire to please Me on My return, to be the loveliest you can be for Me. I love all you are doing and I know how you long for Me and wish for it to all be over. But You know Me well enough too, that my desire is to reach as many of My loves as possible. Be patient, stand firm because, yes, the time is at hand. It really won't be long now. I need you to believe...fiercely!... that I am coming back when I have told you I am. Stand your ground and tell all you can of My soon coming arrival. Shout it from the hilltops so My beautiful church can hear the cry, "The Bridegroom is coming, make ready!" Keep your lamps full and stay attentive and alert. Do not be weary in well doing for you shall reap for all the labors of your love for Me.

Psalm 46 GOD ON OUR SIDE

1 God, you're such a safe and powerful place to find refuge! You're a proven help in time of trouble— more than enough and always available whenever I need you.

2 So we will never fear ***even if*** every structure of support were to crumble away. We will not fear even when the earth quakes and shakes, moving mountains and casting them into the sea.

3 For the raging roar of stormy winds and crashing waves cannot erode our faith in you. Pause in his presence

4 God has a constantly flowing river whose sparkling streams bring joy and delight to his people. His river flows right through the city of God Most High, into his holy dwelling places.

5 God is in the midst of his city, secure and never shaken. ***At daybreak*** his help will be seen with the appearing of the dawn.

6 When the nations are in uproar with their tottering kingdoms, God simply raises his voice and the earth begins to disintegrate before him.

7 *Here he comes ! The Commander! The mighty Lord of Angel Armies is on our side. The God of Jacob fights for us!* Pause in his presence

8–9 Everyone look! Come and see the breathtaking wonders of our God. For he brings both ruin and revival. He's the one who makes conflicts end throughout the earth, breaking and burning every weapon of war.

10 Surrender your anxiety! Be silent and stop your striving and you will see that I am God. I am the God above all the nations, and I will be exalted throughout the whole earth.

11 Here he stands! The Commander! The mighty Lord of Angel Armies is on our side! The God of Jacob fights for us!

Pause in his presence

(The Passion Translation)