

# MAUPIN MESSAGE

## Good News! God is Found Faithful—Again

We should all be aware of God's faithfulness. Faithfulness is an intrinsic attribute of our Heavenly Father. He is never NOT faithful. He is always, already at work for us, as Henry Blackaby writes in *Experiencing God*. For the past couple of years God has me turning to Him and the person and power of the Holy Spirit to reveal the fruits of the Spirit as I engage with others. I've learned many things in this "season" and here are two of them:

**1) God is always providing opportunities to demonstrate the power of the Holy Spirit for His glory and our good.** There are many circumstances to show love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness and self control. I need God's mercy and grace every day. People with agendas other than mine surround me. God provides myriad opportunities to demonstrate His power in my attitude and actions. Patience is not needed when things are running on time. How about when you are stuck in traffic trying to come alongside a friend?

**2) Hardships are the canvas that God uses to paint our picture and display His glory in us and through us.** Demonstrating the fruits of the Spirit displays God's power—the person of the Holy Spirit—during hard times, when believers are pressed down, mistreated, or face major sorrow. We aren't home yet. Hard times come with our current territory. It's essential, therefore, to recognize our dependence on the power of the Holy Spirit to reveal Galatians 5:22 to those around us when things are difficult, when God seems far away. See Isaiah 40:31 for inspiration.

Over the past two months, I've been privileged to speak about the power of the Holy Spirit with student-athletes on four different occasions as part of the ministry of Fellowship of Christian Athletes. I shared how I understood Jesus as Savior at age 11 but never knew how to tap into the power of the Holy Spirit until age 33. That understanding changed everything in my life going forward. What a privilege to share this with coaches and 13-18 year olds, hungry and eager to hear someone cares enough to explain this life-changing Truth. Pinch-me moments every time.

Lastly, **God demonstrates His faithfulness through others.** The prayers and generous, faithful, consistent giving from our partners is how God provides a way to serve Him in ministry. **By His grace, the \$6000 matching gift was fully met on time. To God be the glory! Thank you!** To counter natural (comes with our age) attrition, **we are seeking \$900 in new monthly support to fully equip us in 2022.** Please consider giving a year-end, tax-deductible gift. Amen!

