

*Never complain about the pressure that
pushes you toward God*

November 23

A well seasoned servant of God came to visit me several years ago. It was a time in my life when I was struggling to grow through some common pressures of life. The weight of family, job, ministry, and other simple matters of life seemed to be an overbearing burden and I felt the pressure. This older pastor sat with me and listened to my frustrations. When I concluded, he simply smiled and with such grace, loving care, and firmness, he said to me, “Never complain about the pressure that pushes you toward God ... just don’t let the pressures of life get between you and God.”

I’ve heard it said that a diamond is nothing but an old piece of coal that made good under pressure. Don’t allow the common struggles of life to irritate you and frustrate you. Let them educate you and motivate you as you are pressed more and more, ever closer to God. Use these times to develop a closer relationship with Him.

Prayer for Today

Lord, I choose to live my life on a more even plane, not allowing the pressures I encounter to push me down into the valley of complaint. I trust in You and know that in these times You are close to me, caring for my burden. Use these things to make me more like Your Son Jesus.

Scriptures for Today

John 16:33 In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world. (NAS)

Philippians 3:10 That I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being made conformable unto His death. (KJV)