

Saturday, December 6, 2014

*When my heart was embittered and I was pierced within, then I was senseless and ignorant; I was like a beast before You. Nevertheless I am continually with You; You have taken hold of my right hand. With Your counsel You will guide me, and afterward receive me to glory. **Psalm 73:21-24***

*I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. **Philippians 4:13***

This past year I was nominated by two Ivy League schools to study for an exceptionally difficult accreditation in my professional field of Finance. The time commitment was huge and simultaneously running a business would be strained. After seeking guidance with my prayer partners, I took the challenge—knowing that close to 65% of candidates “washout” of the program. Over a course of 9 months, 5000 pages of textbook reading and 400 tests of intense study, I was asked to attend a weeklong “final evaluation.” 88 international candidates showed up, 37 candidates lasted the week and only 13 passed the accreditation process...and I was on my knees humbled and even terrified throughout the ordeal, as I was straining beyond my limits.

I was totally dependent on God’s deeper understanding and realized how truly limited were my own abilities and capacity. And God’s training took me to an arduous place of recognition of my own inadequacies. I had to stop relying on myself and place trust in God’s abilities and direction.

I am still on my knees humbled. God granted me His Grace as being one of those candidates that succeeded in the program. An answer to prayer, that behind every life experience is a divine purpose and without Him, I can do nothing. But I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength...and not to let go!

Barbara Zech