



CHILDREN BROCHURE

MORAVIAN CHURCH – BARBADOS CONFERENCE Provincial Theme: Advance the Kingdom: S.H.I.F.T.

S. – Seek & Submit
H. – Hear & Heed
I. – Imagine & Insight
F. – Focus & Function
T. – Totally Transformed

S.H.I.F.T.

Age: 13 yrs. & Over

April 11

Sing with me:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4bkuCbmjCzA>

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Memory verse:

Philippians 4: 13 NKJV

13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Scripture:

Philippians 4:11 – 13 NKJV

Read with me

11 Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content: 12 I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things, I

have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. 13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Let us talk about it.

Have you ever faced something really difficult? Maybe you feel like you could not keep going after getting a Grade 3 in your CAPE Maths exam last year. You never got anything less than Grade 1 and you expected a Grade 1. There goes the university scholarship that you were expecting to get. Or think of the disappointment when School Sports was cancelled. No chance of that athletic scholarship which you thought you had holding in your hands. Oh dear, you trained so hard preparing for that long jump.

How do you deal with life's difficult situations? It is difficult enough trying to cope with staying at home, no friends because you cannot go out, and learning in an online environment. How much worst can it get? How do you keep going when you just want to curl up in your bed, pull the covers over your head, and never come out? Okay, we blame it on COVID.

The good news is, that in the moments when we feel the most helpless, Jesus is there to give us the strength to carry on. If we will spend time with Him, and get close to Him, He will give us the strength to keep going, even in difficult circumstances.

Tough times are hard on us all. Whether it is because both of your parents have lost their jobs because the company they owned had to be closed. Or we did not make the Football team because of the postponement of sports due to the COVID 19 spread. Tough times can really weigh down on you. Many times, it's hard to know how to deal with tough times. We might feel like we don't know how to respond. We may even blame God for the tough time we are facing.

Can you imagine what it is like in St Vincent right now with the eruption of the Soufriere volcano? Some neighbouring islands are feeling the effect of this eruption, with the dust covering the skies and blocking the sun. This is literally a dark time for many people. But where is God? You may ask. God is still there, giving us the strength to carry on.

Let's take a look at what the Bible says about some difficult situations and times when we needed to be strengthened.

No one undergoing a trial should say, "I am being tempted by God." For God is not tempted by evil, and He Himself doesn't tempt anyone. – James 1:13

This verse shows us that God isn't sending us through a trial or a tough time to test us. God is not to be blamed for the difficulty you're facing. He isn't testing you or trying to teach you a lesson. God is too good for that. God wants us to reach out to Him for help.

17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning. – James 1:17

This verse shows us that God sends us good things. He's not out there ready to take away the things we love. He's only has good gifts and good things to give to us. So, when tough times come, realize that God isn't the source of our trial, but He will help us to overcome these moments of doubts and disappointments. The song writer says Look what the Lord has done

Look what the Lord has done

He healed my body, He touched my mind

He saved me it was just in time

I'm gonna praise His name, Each day He's just the same

Come on and praise Him

Look what the Lord has done

Our attitude and outlook makes a huge difference when we're faced with a tough time. We can choose how we will respond to difficulties in our life. You can choose to be defeated or upbeat about the difficulties which come your way.

Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. Romans 8:37

Paul is an awesome example of this. He faced lots of crazy stuff in his life. He was shipwrecked, beaten, left for dead, and put in prison. Despite all the hard things that happened in his life, Paul kept a good attitude. He chose to put his trust in God and keep a positive attitude in the midst of tough times.

Paul's example should encourage us when we face tough times. Regardless of what is going on around us, we can take comfort in the fact that God never leaves us and isn't the source of tough times. We can go to God in tough times and ask Him to be our shelter and our refuge.

Choose to look to God for His strength in difficulty. Remember that with God on our side we can't be defeated. Keep a good attitude and know God will help you through the difficulty you're facing!

Let us pray

Dear Father, I need Your peace. I have allowed my attention to shift towards the distractions and circumstances with which that I am currently struggling. I have exhausted my resources and energy. Help me to actively place my thoughts and focus back on You and Your faithfulness. Help me to be content with what I have. I thank You that You are continually pursuing me and always drawing my heart back towards You. I thank You for Your kindness and patience towards me. Amen.

Let us offer a special prayer for the people of St Vincent.

O God, we pray for our friends, the people of St Vincent that they will look to You for strength as they go through this period of volcanic eruption on their island. Help the people to stay calm and to cooperate with the authorities as they manage the evacuation to get persons to a safe place. May they, like Paul remember that You are on their side and will help them through this difficult time. Amen

Activity

Make a flower for your mother on Mothers' Day.

Who said you were not artistic? In the next two videos, you will make two types of flowers.

1. All you need are some sheets of tissue paper, three colours.

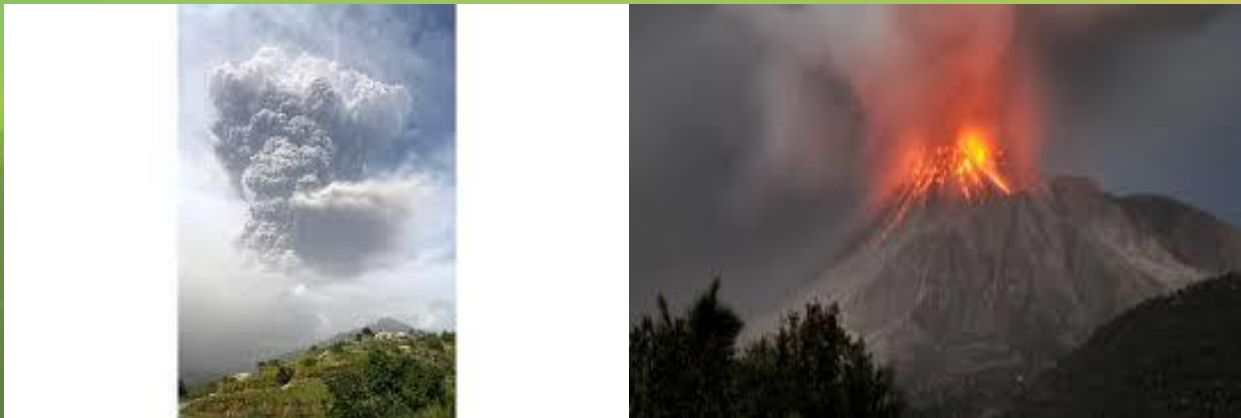
Try them and report next week how you got through.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eXwHHDPg_I0

2. Plain white tissue paper

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BDuP9jBbLks>

Have fun.



Images of the volcanic activity in St Vincent.