



Rejoice in the Lord

Pensacola, FL 32523-9160 • U.S.A.

a ministry of PENSACOLA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

That's What It Was Made For

— A Word from Pastor Jeff Redlin —

I have a basketball that sits on top of a bookshelf in my office. It really wasn't made for an office shelf—it was made to be bounced, to be thrown, to be hurled, to be passed, to be pounded. Basically put, it was made to be used. But what if I didn't allow anyone to touch it because I was nervous that it would burst if it was dropped, deflate if it was shot, and would otherwise fall apart if harshly treated. In a very real sense, the basketball would be worth very little if it couldn't stand up to the pounding it was created to endure.

“A faith that cannot be tested cannot be trusted.”

is free from the pounding that is typical of life, or is it the kind of faith that gets regular—sometimes even harsh—use?

So, allow me to ask, is your faith the shelf kind or the using kind? In other words, does it look good perched up on some high place where it

I once read the words, “A faith that cannot be tested cannot be trusted.” Those are great words. In fact, in 1 Peter 4:12, we are reminded to *think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you.* James 1:2 reminds us that we are to *count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations* [various trials]. Why? Because verse 3 explains that *the trying of [our] faith worketh patience.* The word *trying* means “proving.” Like my basketball, our faith was never intended for the shelf; it was intended for daily use.

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