

## A Long Obedience in the Same Direction

*Pastor Tim Moore*

### *Going The Distance*

#### Psalm 129 (The Message)

"They've kicked me around ever since I was young"  
this is how Israel tells it "

They've kicked me around ever since I was young,  
but they never could keep me down.  
Their plowmen plowed long furrows  
up and down my back.  
Then God ripped the harnesses  
of the evil plowmen to shreds."

Oh, let all those who hate Zion grovel in humiliation;  
Let them be like grass in shallow ground  
that withers before the harvest,  
Before the farmhands can gather it in,  
the harvesters get in the crop,  
Before the neighbors have a chance to call out,  
"Congratulations on your wonderful crop!  
We bless you in God's name!"

**Going the Distance: PERSEVERANCE**

**Follows of Christ can Expect: HARDSHIP, TROUBLE.**

*All men will hate you because of me, but he who stands firm to the end will be saved. Matt 13:13 (NIV)*

**"When that bell rings, I'm still standing"**

**People of Faith OUTLAST their OPPRESSORS**

**Endurance is not: DESPERATELY HANGING ON**

**But going from: STRENGTH to STRENGTH**

*"It ain't about how hard you hit, It's about how hard you can get hit and keep moving forward, how much you can take and keep moving forward. That's how winning is done." Rocky*

**PERSEVERANCE is not PERFECTION**

**Believe in the ONE who is in YOU**

*You are from God, little children, and have overcome them; because greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world. 1 John 4 4 (NASB)*

**Perseverance is not the result of our DETERMINATION**

**But the result of God's FAITHFULNESS**

**GET UP! Because JESUS LOVES YA**

*Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart. Hebrews 12 1-3*