

As a new Christian, God wants you to grow strong in faith. To accomplish this, you must pray and read God's Word - the Bible each day. You must obey His command to publicly identify with Christ through baptism and unite with a local fundamental Bible-believing church right away.

A good church home will teach you the Bible and show you how to serve God with your life. The test of the genuineness of your faith is in whether or not you are willing to obey Christ's commands.

"By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous. For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith." 1 John 5:2-4

Instead of thinking *"all these things are against me,"* through faith in Christ you can now say, *"... all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose".* Romans 8:28

- Pastor Tim Cruise

A Personal Invitation to Visit with Us

Sunday Bible Study 9:30 am
Morning Service 10:45 am
Evening Service 6:00 pm
Wednesday Prayer Meeting 7:15 pm



Shining Light Baptist Church

2541 Old Charlotte Highway at Roland Drive
Monroe, NC 28110
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Tim Cruise, Pastor

Hear *"The Shining Light"* Every Sunday
Live at 8:00am & 6:00pm WIXE 1190AM Local Cable Channel 17

Printed by Shining Light Publishing 1-877-700-SLBC • www.ShiningLightPublishing.com

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. . . Job Loss . . . Frustration . . . Financial Pressure . . . Fear . . .
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All These Things Are AGAINST ME

Have The Cares Of Life Got You Down?

There is a story in the Old Testament about a man named Jacob and his sons. At a certain point in his life, it appeared to him that his circumstances were working against him. Facing a time of famine, he felt sure he was losing two sons in addition to the one he had already lost. In despair he uttered, "*all these things are against me*" (Genesis 42:36).

As the story unfolded, Jacob kept the sons he thought he would lose and was reunited with his lost son, Joseph. By this time, Joseph was second in command to an Egyptian Pharaoh. Through his wisdom in storing much food for the famine, untold numbers of people were spared, including Jacob and his family.

Joseph spoke of the rejection of his brothers and the heartaches he experienced in Egypt before God exalted him and said, "*ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive*" (Genesis 50:20). He knew God had used his pain to bring him into a place of blessing. Jacob learned this same lesson.

In the pursuit of pleasure and ease, many live as though God does not exist. "Things are going too well to worry about God and heaven or hell," they think. Certainly, in our busy lives we become preoccupied with the cares of this life.

To get our attention and turn our thoughts toward things eternal, there are times when God allows sorrows to come into our lives. These sorrows are not meant to destroy us, but rather to bring us unto Himself (Exodus 19:4). **Ultimately, *what seems to be against us is for us when we allow God to use our heartaches to show us our need for Him and His forgiveness.***

God is speaking to you through your present circumstances. You must resist becoming bitter and avoid the temptation to give up.

Think You Can't Go On?

God Loves You And Has A Plan For Your Life

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."
John 3:16

Through Sin You Have Been Separated From God

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God"
Romans 3:23

God In Mercy Sent His Son To Pay The Penalty For Your Sin On The Cross

"But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us...For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Romans 5:8; 6:23

By Faith You Must Ask Forgiveness Of Sin And Trust Christ As Savior

"I tell you, Nay: but except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish...But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name."
Luke 13:3;
John 1:12

Look To God Right Now And Call On Him In Prayer

"That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. . . . For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. . . . For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."
Romans 10:9,10,13

"Dear God, I know that I have sinned against you and am truly sorry for my sin. I believe Jesus Christ died for me and rose again from the