



JOINT TASK FORCE CIVIL SUPPORT

CHAPLAIN'S RESILIENCY MESSAGE / 5 MAY 2015

1504 Madison Avenue, Fort Eustis, VA 23604
757-501-7874 (o) 540-835-7557 (bb) www.jtfc.northcom.mil

Resiliency is seeing the Big Picture with Faith

Life can seem confusing, at times, and uncertain at best. We've all been here and perhaps you feel that right now is one of those times. We simply can't know everything there is to know about anything. We may even do all the right things, even try really hard and do our very best but things still don't make sense and don't add up. This is reinforcement that we need each other to lean on, at times, and God to rely on at all times. Being faith-focused doesn't magically fix everything but it provides a very valuable and necessary perspective enabling each of us to see the big picture and helping us see how and where we fit in. Seeing the big picture means viewing life from the vantage point of faith even when not physically visible.

Because we can't know the beginning and end of all things, we need to focus on being and doing our part, whether large or small. We often get over-focused on what's behind us and what's ahead of us stealing the importance of the present moment. The best perspective is being aware of what's behind, what's ahead but being intensely focused upon what's right in front of us and living in the reality of this present moment. King Solomon refers to this thought in Ecclesiastes chapter 3:11-13: "He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end. I know that there is nothing better for people than to be happy and to do good while they live. That each of them may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all their toil—this is the gift of God."

Living with the perspective of faith will empower and enrich you every day as you display the values of your respective branch of service or as a DOD civilian/contractor. Perspective can help you persevere and accelerate the last 100 yards of the APFT and complete the last leg of the 12-mile ruck march in sand and complete the last paper of the last course of your degree. Enduring strong to the finish line is worth it, especially from the perspective of completion and looking back upon your accomplishment.

Carpe Diem!

"Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him." –Hebrews 11:1, 6

CH (CPT) Jeff Hicks
JTF-CS Command Chaplain