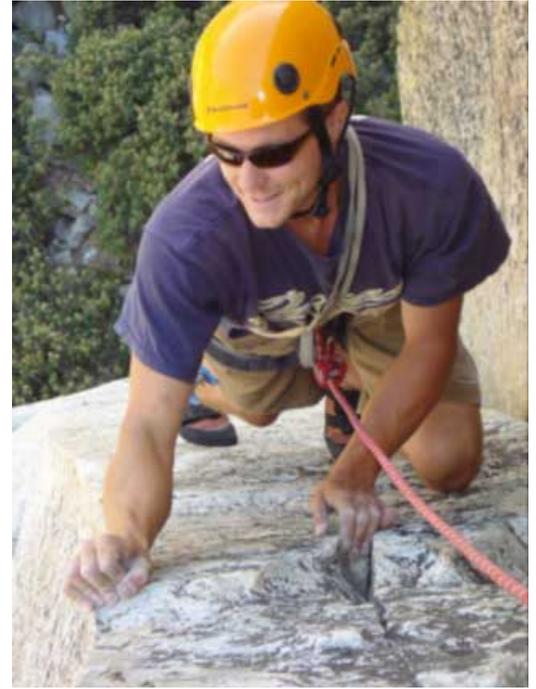


“That ye be not slothful (lazy), but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the Promises.” Hebrews 6:12No2 KJV

You don't sprint up the side of a mountain; you don't even walk. Climbers must trust their equipment, move slowly and deliberately, and test each hand and foothold before using. BUT... once an anchor point is established, they can rest in their harness while scouting for the next. There is no such thing as “impulse climbing.” Speed climbing is done on climbing walls and mountainsides with specific paths already scouted and used and then only for competition. Free climbing is only done by the experienced and seasoned. Climbers are careful with diet and exercise to remain in top condition. Good health is vital! The Christian walk is NOT a competition, but each day is a new climbing experience for the believer, because each day brings us different “mountains.” If we do not *“diligently seek, meditate day and night, [and] pray without ceasing,”* the day's challenges may wound us. Faith is the tether which binds us to the *“Rock of our Salvation,”*



God's Word, and patience is required for the disciplined determination of diligent obedience; knowing that *“in due season, we will reap if we faint not.”* A climber must know with certainty which holds to use and find to successfully climb each mountain. Through faith we can stand on the pinnacle and view peace and joy with clarity in the far away distances of Eternity we could not perceive when starting the day! *“Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.”* We must stay focused and attentive to loose footing that will jeopardize our ascent. But when day is done, and we meditate at eventide on the safe passage our *“faith and patience”* has provided us through faithful disciplined obedience to God's Word, we can, with peace and joy, be thankful for the Holy Spirit's guidance throughout! Isn't it interesting that the root of the word discipline is “disciple?” We cannot fall far through misstep or loose outcropping, and even though we may bruise or wound, believers are at all times tethered to their ever present Rock through faith! No true climber ever quits climbing because of a slip or wound. They patiently restart, clinging more closely to the rock. Climbing is never easy, but will reward the diligent with panoramas seen by no other! Christ never promised “easy.” To the contrary, God's Word says, *“Yea, and ALL that will live Godly in Christ Jesus SHALL suffer persecution.”* But Jesus also promised, *“Lo, I am with you always.”* No matter the circumstances, believers focused on Jesus, God's Word can securely walk above them!

Faithful patience will overcome,
And win the prize when day is done,
Because we confidently climbed,
Securely kept by Sovereign Guide! ~CGP

You cannot fall, if you are kept safe by the Spirit Guide who knows every crack and crevice and you're tethered by faith firmly to the “Rock which cannot fail!” Some climbs take longer than others, but you can confidently face each climb; knowing with *“faith and patience”* you will gain each summit without fail!

“Now unto Him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His Glory with exceeding joy: To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.” Jude 1:24-25 KJV