

## **Images Fade, But Jesus is Forever**

By Stephanie (Hicks) Downard

The other day I was sent an image. It was of a man sitting next to a bloodied, and beaten man, who was portraying Jesus. The caption read, "That moment when you try to explain to Jesus how hard your life has been today." I instantly felt like my problems didn't seem so bad, and I felt guilty for complaining so much.

The image had moved me, and I wanted to change my ways. But, what happens after a few hours, days, weeks, months, even years pass by. Will that image mean anything to me or will I have forgotten, and fall back into old habits again?

We have so many reminders of God's love, and Jesus' sacrifice. We put pictures on our walls with our favorite verses, but over time we pass it by, forgetting it's there, and it soon becomes just another decoration. Our favorite ring, inscribed with scripture, becomes just another piece of jewelry. The meaning behind why we bought these items in the first place, fades away, and they become just another object.

I'm not saying these things are wrong to have, but if you want to see change in yourself you must look elsewhere.

God is eternal, Jesus is forever, and the bible remains constant. "As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love. If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love. John 15:9-10.

God's love is the key to true happiness and fulfillment. Fill yourself with God's word, keep the commandments, and don't let Jesus' sacrifice be in vain. Then the next time you get that email or see a verse on the wall, it will strengthen your spirit instead of fading into the background as another forgotten memory.