

## Principled Part 1: Principles Over Pressure

*"We were under great **pressure**, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired of life itself."  
2 Corinthians 1:8 NIV*

- ✓ Pressure without a focus is **unproductive**.
- ✓ Pressure without a reason is **unreasonable**.
- ✓ Pressure without a principle is **unbearable**.

**Principle** – a fundamental **truth** that serves as the **foundation** for our beliefs and behavior.

*"As **pressure** and stress bear down on me, I find **joy** in your commands." Psalm 119:43 NLT*

*"Consider it a sheer gift, friends, when tests and challenges come at you from all sides. You know that **under pressure**, your **faith-life** is forced into the open and shows its **true colors**. So don't try to get out of anything prematurely. Let it do its work so you become mature and well-developed, not deficient in any way." James 1:2-4 MSG*

### 1. The Bible is the **inspired** Word of God.

*"**All Scripture** is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."  
2 Timothy 3:16-17 NIV*

### 2. The Bible is **inerrant**.

*"So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; **It shall not return to Me void**, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it." Isaiah 55:11 NKJV*

### 3. The Bible is **infallible**.

*"What if some were unfaithful? Will their unfaithfulness nullify God's faithfulness? Not at all! **Let God be true**, and every human being a liar. As it is written: "So that you may be proved right when you speak and prevail when you judge."" Romans 3:3-4 NIV*

- ✓ Where the Bible speaks **clearly**, that's what we believe.
- ✓ Where the Bible is **unclear** we look for **principles** to apply.
- ✓ Where a principle isn't applicable we **listen** to wisdom.