

TWO WORDS IN A FORTUNE COOKIE- PRICELESS

Every day when I open my jewelry box to get my wedding ring, there is a special piece of paper inside. This paper is over a year old and for some reason, I have kept it to remind me that God is in me and with me. This paper is actually a fortune cookie paper. Last year I was going through so much turmoil and stress that when I opened this fortune cookie, God revealed Himself to me. I know what you are thinking, "God doesn't speak through cookies". I agree with you, but I was at the end of my rope. God had to use a fortune cookie to remind me that His peace is with me. My treasured fortune cookie has only two words, "DON'T PANIC". If you convert this saying to a biblical verse it would be in Psalm 34:19,

*"A righteous man may have many troubles,
But the Lord delivers him from them all.."*

God is telling you that you will have difficulties and you need to know how to respond to trouble before it comes. When your nerves are shot, try to realize who you are and who is inside of you. Afflictions will always be with you but, God provides a way through any situation you are in. Before you flip out and go postal because of your predicaments, DON'T PANIC! John 16:33 says,

*I have told you these things, so **that in me you may have peace.**
In this world you will have trouble.*

But take heart! I have overcome the world."

His spoken word is telling you what to do. God is instructing you to stay secure, sound and whole. Know that He is there. When you are tempted to resign, when you can't deal with another doctor's prognosis, when you can't control your children, when you want to speak your mind in a heated moment, or when you are fed up with everyone, God is reminding you to be obedient to his word. DON'T PANIC! We have spiritual victory. God desires you to feel secure in the midst of turmoil. 2 Corinthians 2:14,

*"But thanks be to God, who always leads
us in triumphal process in Christ.."*

God has removed and conquered the powers that may steal your peace. Don't let anyone or anything steal your peace, not even in the little things. During Christmas I was at Northstar mall trying to find a parking space. I was at the right place at the right time because after 30 minutes and 5 rounds, I finally saw some white taillights on reverse. I waited patiently, and put my turn signal on. I felt fortunate to find a space close to the mall entrance. Just as soon as I counted my blessings a little sports car sped up and took my parking space. I felt my blood begin to boil. I couldn't believe my eyes. I so wanted to go to that driver and speak my mind. But, after the shock I drove on and made a conscious decision to let it go. I had to keep my peace, because a parking space wasn't worth the stress and anger. I defeated the enemy thanks to God's two words in a fortune cookie, "DON'T PANIC".

Peace be with you,

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