

# MORE THAN WE CAN HANDLE

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1 Corinthians 10:13

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Have you ever heard someone say, “God will never give you more than you can handle”? I’m guessing they’re paraphrasing 1 Corinthians 10:13, which says God will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But trouble and temptation are two different things. There will never be an instance when we are forced into sin with no way out.

Sin is always a choice, not the inevitable result of crushing temptation. But somehow that verse has been twisted to mean that we won’t experience more trouble than we can bear. In fact, nothing could be further from the truth. God will often allow more than we can handle, but He’ll never allow more than He can handle. My whole life is more than I can handle—that is why I need Christ!

I needed God to stay the course while I was in school. I needed Him when I was a single man who longed for a spouse. I needed Him when I needed a job. Now, with two kids, a marriage, friends, and a great church, I definitely have more than I can handle. I need God when my wife and I struggle to be two who became one and when we’re arguing over which one of us we became. Only in His strength and wisdom can I know what is best for my family and whether or not my desires are selfish or pure. In marriage, it is possible to win the fight but lose ground, a lesson most of us have learned the hard way.

The bottom line is this: Life is hard. I need God every minute of every day because I am often faced with more than I can handle. Paul must have understood that when he wrote these words to the Corinthians:

*We don't want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, of our affliction that took place in Asia. We were completely overwhelmed—beyond our strength—so that we even despaired of life itself. Indeed, we felt that we had received the sentence of death, so that we would not trust in ourselves but in God who raises the dead. He has delivered us from such a terrible death, and he will deliver us. We have put our hope in him that he will deliver us again.*

—2 Corinthians 1:8–10

*For further study: 2 Corinthians 1:8–10*