



This is a Test ...



We moved to Marble Falls on
November 15, 1977

The week before Thanksgiving

Which means that this month Peggy
and I are celebrating 40 years of life
and ministry in Marble Falls and
Granite Shoals

And when that thought struck me my
first reaction was, "Wow, 40 years."

But then my attention immediately
shifted to that number –

40



The Biblical significance of 40 is?

- **A period of testing, trial or probation**
- How often is the number 40 used in scripture?
- 146, associated with ..
- Noah's flood – rained for 40 days and 40 nights
- Moses – 40 years in Egypt and 40 years in the desert
- 40 days on Mount Sinai (TWICE)
- Spies sent into the Promised Land for 40 days
- Children of Israel wandered in the desert for 40 years
- Jonah preached to Nineveh for 40 days
- Elijah went without food for 40 days on Mt. Horeb
- Jesus tempted in the desert for 40 days
- After the resurrection, Jesus remained for 40 days



What does testing mean?

- 1 Corinthians 10:13 - No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.
- *Peirazo* – to go through process to determine or assess quality or characters
- Who is assessing Whom? Does God need to put us through tests so He can figure out whether or not we “make the grade?” He is God!! He already knows our hearts. By the blood of Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit He has already equipped us to be overcomers!! So what is it???
- The testing is for us to confirm that He is faithful and His Grace is ALWAYS SUFFICIENT. EVEN WHEN WE FAIL



This is a Test – Luke 22

- “Simon, Simon, behold, Satan has [d]demanded *permission* to sift you like wheat; ³² but I have prayed for you, that your faith may not fail; and you, when once you have turned again, strengthen your brothers.”
- ³³ But he said to Him, “Lord, with You I am ready to go both to prison and to death!”
- ³⁴ And He said, “I say to you, Peter, the rooster will not crow today until you have denied three times that you know Me.”

So, What Have I Learned?



**Give Thanks to
the Lord for HE
IS GOOD.**

**His
lovingkindness
is everlasting,
And His
faithfulness to
all
generations.
Psalm 100**





Outrageously Amazing Message!!

- deeply loved by God,
- fully accepted by God,
- completely and permanently forgiven by God,
- lavishly blessed by God,
- and eternally, perfectly embraced by God as his child; a child who brings Him unspeakable JOY