



Jera Pipkin

Time seems absent

Generally speaking, life is not always easy. I am a full-time student in my last semester at Oklahoma State University (OSU). I have two majors, one minor, three jobs and 15 hours of class per week. I keep involved in extra-curricular activities, Angus events and try to find time to go home, every now and then. Time seems absent.

Tests are a weekly occurrence, homework sits in piles and accomplishing things does not come easy. It is easy to get bogged down with everything we have going on.

I have been subject to this lately myself, so when I stumbled across this *Bible* verse it hit me pretty hard. *Romans 5:3-4* states, “We rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope.” I know what it is like. I know what you are going through. We can get through this together.

Suffering produces endurance

Though we are suffering, we must persevere. No matter what, we have to finish the race. We cannot quit. We cannot give up. Everything has to be done. While it may be a mountain, each step gets us closer to the top. If you are like me, you do not want to give anything up if at all possible. You care about each entity you are involved in. Ultimately, it boils down to how we prioritize our duties.

While it may always seem like we have too much on our plate, regardless, we will get it done. Also, when we struggle, we rely on God

more to get us through the hardship. That is exactly what He wants us to do and how He wants us to endure. Suffering produces endurance.

Endurance produces character

No matter the challenge in front of us, there is always a lesson to be learned. Each little step helps us learn something about ourselves. Whether it is learning what you are good at, how you react in certain situations, what you like, etc., these define who we are — our character.

Each and every one of you have a distinct, flourishing character. Being forced to endure sheds light on who we are as individuals in its truest form. Regardless of if you are at your lowest point, remember there is always someone watching you. It is how you respond and interact with others during this time that builds, maintains and creates character.

Character produces hope

While it seems we always try to bite off more than we can chew, we have endured. We know who we are and how we react. We know our character. The light is always at the end of the tunnel. Everything *can* and *will* get done. Each day may seem

stressful, but we have the power and knowledge to succeed. With each and every task, no matter how daunting they may be, the hope of accomplishing something new is always the reward.

When we enter the show ring, no matter the suffering that came before us, the chance at a ribbon, prize or other award is awaiting us at the exit gate. That heifer may have required extra effort and perseverance, yet she was able to make her way around the ring and come out with a blue ribbon. We must look at the end goal of every situation, hold true to our character and hope for the best.

Whether it's the challenge of starting a new school year, training a finicky heifer or finally accomplishing that next goal you have set for yourself, nothing is going to come without suffering, character and hope. Each of these tasks shape who you are and who you will become. I believe in you. We are cut from a different mold. We will climb mountains.

— Jera Pipkin, Missouri

Iowa Jr. Angus Preview Show, June 16, Eldora

Winning peewee showmanship are (from left) Lane Schroeder, Durant; Keegan Bacon, Manson; Callie Jensen, Plainfield; and Colby Bacon, Manson.



Maggie Maas, Iowa Angus princess; presents junior showmanship winners (from left) Cale Jensen, Plainfield, reserve champion; and Nyla Wibholm, Dows, champion.



Maas presents intermediate showmanship winners (from left) Walker McDermott, Wiota, champion; and Kara Collison, Rockwell City, reserve champion.

Cassidy Becker, Diagonal, won senior showmanship honors and qualified to represent Iowa as an alternate at the National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest.



Winning senior showmanship honors and qualifying to represent Iowa in the National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest at the NJAS are (from left) Haley Greiman, Perry, champion; Taylor Duckett, Tipton, reserve champion; presented by Maas.



Receiving Iowa Angus Association scholarships are (from left) Ryland McCormick, Pleasantville; and Maggie Maas, Adair.

Missouri Angus Ass'n Jr. Preview Show, June 10, Sedalia

Winning top honors in showmanship are (from left) Victoria Busch, Saint James, junior champion; and Ciara Raithel, Mexico, Mo., senior champion.



Winning top honors in showmanship are (from left) Kaylee Erdmann, Lisbon, peewee champion; Wyatt Spickler, Glenfield, junior champion; Kendra Myers, Kathryn, intermediate champion; and Madison Sundsbak, Des Lacs, senior champion.

**North Dakota Jr. Angus Ass'n Field Day, June 9, Jamestown****Northern Illinois Angus Ass'n Jr. Preview Show, June 24, Oregon**

Winning junior showmanship are (from left) Coehen Kirchner, Leaf River, first place; Koby Kearns, Winslow, second place; and Grant Johnson, Durand, third place.



Winning intermediate showmanship are (from left) Anna Johnson, Durand, first place; Alyssa Miller, Lanark, second place; and Brooke Allen, Byron, third place.



Winning senior showmanship are (from left) Austin Miller, Lanark, first place; Emma Richardson, Capron, second place; and Garrett Handsaker, Pearl City, third place.

North Dakota State Fair Jr. Angus Show, July 24, Minot



Left: Victoria Vollmer, Grace City, was crowned North Dakota Angus queen.

Right: Receiving their Bronze, Silver and Gold awards are (from left) Sara Hatlewick, Jamestown, gold award; Rylee Erdmann, Lisbon, bronze award; and Madison Sundsbak, Des Lacs, and Alexis Vandenberghe, Cleveland, bronze and silver awards.



Pennsylvania Breeders' Jr. Angus Show, June 21-22, Huntingdon



Winning novice showmanship are (from left) Kolton Grim, Thomasville, champion; and Gabrielle Jacobs, Airville, reserve champion.



Winning junior showmanship are (from left) Raven Eisenhour, Wellsville, champion; and Payton Engle, Cochranville, reserve champion.



Winning intermediate showmanship are (from left) Kiersten Baker, James Creek, champion; and Kaitlin Bell, Nottingham, reserve champion.



Winning senior showmanship are (from left) Jade Zimmerman, Drumore, champion; and Grant Cash, York, reserve champion.



Winning overall showmanship honors are (from left) Kiersten Baker, James Creek, reserve champion; and Jade Zimmerman, Drumore, grand champion.



Chance Rains, Mercer, (left) was named premier junior breeder. Presented by Sam Long, show committee member.



Taking top honors in the boys' division of cattle judging are (from left) Zachary Wasser, Ottsville, first; Jacob Werner, Hanover, second; Dylan Fessler, Robesonia, third; Grant Cash, York, fourth; and Samuel Parr, East Berlin, fifth.



Taking top honors in the girls' division of cattle judging are (from left) Jade Zimmerman, Drumore, first; Lydia Brown, Mill Creek, second; Madison Weaver, Ephrata, third; Elizabeth Voight, Fredericksburg, fourth; and Haley Sweitzer, Wellsville, fifth.

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Virginia

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Virginia Angus Breeders' Show, July 29, Chatham



Mark Alexander, Berryville, was named premier breeder.



Gordon Clark (center), Gretna, was named premier exhibitor. Pictured are (from left) Wyatt Debnam, Chansé Mullinix, Suter Clark, Gordon Clark, Tim Clark and JD Brown.

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Northwest Regional Preview Jr. Angus Show, June 15-16, Filer



Winning junior showmanship are (from left) Sydney Dodge, Pendleton, Ore., champion; and Kady Vejraska, Omak, Wash., reserve champion.



Winning intermediate showmanship are (from left) Matt Rosman, Creston, Wash., champion; and Tanner Meads, Hermiston, Ore., reserve champion.



Winning senior showmanship are (from left) Corrie Falleur, Gearhart, Ore., champion; and Wyatt Neal, Parma, Idaho, reserve champion.



Overall showmanship honors were presented by (from left) Will Pohlman, National Junior Angus Board (NJAB) vice chairman, to Corrie Falleur, Gearhart, Ore., champion; and Matt Rosman, Creston, Wash., reserve champion. Catie Hope (right), NJAB communications director, also presented.



Mackenzie Malson (center), Parma, Idaho, won premier breeder, presented by Pohlman and Hope.



Sydney Rylaarsdam-Schoo (center), Grangeville, Idaho, won premier exhibitor, presented by Pohlman and Hope.

Ohio Angus Ass'n Jr. Preview Show, June 17, Lima



Winning junior showmanship are (from left) Carly Sanders, first, and Sydney Sanders, second, both of Leesburg; Lara Rittenhouse, New Carlisle, third; Josie Kidwell, Walhonding, fourth; and Audra Miller, Tiffin, fifth.



Winning intermediate showmanship are (from left) Kyle Piscione, Burbank, first; Samantha Wallace, Kansas, second; Kinsey Crowe, Eaton, third; Sarah Millikan, Napoleon, fourth; and Darcy Howser, Mount Orab, fifth.



Winning senior showmanship are (from left) Erica Snook, Caldwell, first; Michelle Bockelman, Napoleon, second; Kelsey Shope, McDermott, third; Renee Hamilton, Pataskala, fourth; and Marissa Hall, Cardington, fifth.

Southern Illinois Jr. Angus Show, July 28, Flora



Showmanship winners are (from left) Madaline Bergmann, Vienna, beginner champion; Cadence Yager, Flora, junior champion; Cody York, Palestine, intermediate champion; and Paige VanDyke, Louisville, senior champion.

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