

## Be Courageous, and Don't Quit!!!

Every baby born on planet earth is born into a war zone. There are natural wars where people are trying to kill each other (inspired by the devil), and there are thought wars that everyone fights every day. We must decide to be warriors, if we are going to accomplish God's will on the earth. We must not just be casualties; not accomplishing the purposes and the plans of our Commander-in-Chief, Jesus. The devil wants us to be weak and cower down to his wishes, but we must put on the whole armor of God, get in the fight, and fight to conquer him. Romans 8:37 says that we are more than conquerors; we can and we will live this verse in our lives.

I've learned over the years that weakness invites the devil into our lives. It's an open invitation for the devil's kingdom to destroy us. We must learn to be strong in the Lord and the power of His might. We must be in it to win it. We must never see surrender as an option. Even if our bodies and minds are wounded in the battle to a point of physical death, we must fight to the end with no thought of quitting.

Over the last 40 years, LeJeune and I have had the enemy almost destroy us over and over again. He has thought that he had thrown the knock-out blow many times. We have been knocked down and didn't feel like we could get back up; but there was something down inside of us that wouldn't let us quit. That something was the voice of our Heavenly Father encouraging us to get up. I've confessed this confession for decades now, "I don't give up; I get up!"

Life has been really hard for my family this last year; but even in our weakness, God makes us strong. This Newsletter is to encourage you. I pray for all of you veterans of the war in Afghanistan. I know you probably feel like all you fought for is in vain. Let me remind you of this one thing; the devil thought that he had defeated God when he killed His Son. But he was the one defeated on the third day when Jesus came out of the grave.

I have some Scriptures for us to study this week that will put us into the conquering position instead of being conquered. Let's read and study them.

1 Samuel 30:1-4,6,8 KJV And it came to pass, when David and his men were come to Ziklag on the third day, that the Amalekites had invaded the south, and Ziklag, and smitten Ziklag, and burned it with fire; [2] And had taken the women captives, that were therein: they slew not any, either great or small, but carried them away, and went on their way. [3] So David and his men came to the city, and, behold, it was burned with fire; and their wives, and their sons, and their daughters, were taken captives. [4] Then David and the people that were with him lifted up their voice and wept, until they had no more power to weep...

[6] And David was greatly distressed; for the people spake of stoning him, because the soul of all the people was grieved, every man for his sons and for his daughters: but David encouraged himself in the Lord his God...

[ 8] And David enquired at the Lord, saying, Shall I pursue after this troop? shall I overtake them? And He answered him, Pursue: for thou shalt surely overtake them, and without fail recover all.

We read about David dancing in the streets on one occasion when they had brought back the Ark of the Covenant. He was so happy that day. But I want you to know that David's life was not always a life of joy; it was a life of war. As a young boy in a sheep pasture, he started fighting. He fought and killed a bear and a lion, because they tried to kill his sheep. He then killed a giant that was mocking the armies of Israel. In David's life there were seasons of pain and sorrow, but David would not quit in the hardest times.

I want to leave you with this thought. The way that David got back up when he was knocked down was what he had learned from an early age - if God be for you, who can be against you? He would go to his place of prayer when the hard times came. He would seek God's will, and then he would do his best to execute God's desire. We are right now in the fight of our lives. Don't give up! Don't quit! Your God will see you through!

Love you,  
Pastor Paul

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#### This Week's Daily Bible Readings

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| Monday    | Exodus chapter 18 |
| Tuesday   | Exodus chapter 19 |
| Wednesday | Exodus chapter 20 |
| Thursday  | Exodus chapter 21 |
| Friday    | Exodus chapter 22 |
| Saturday  | Exodus chapter 23 |
| Sunday    | Exodus chapter 24 |

#### \*Upcoming Events

1. Women's Dance Aerobics: 10-11am Mon-Fri in the Gym
2. Mobile Prayer: Wednesday 2-3:30pm in our South parking lot; Friday 2-3:30pm Sam's Warehouse
3. Noonday Bible Study: In Sanctuary; live on KJRF 91.1fm; live stream on TCC app.12:15 Mon-Fri