

Facing the Giants In Marriage

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Never Give Up

Philippians 3:13-16 Forgetting for Victory

¹³ Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, ¹⁴ *I press on toward the goal* to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

¹⁵ All of us who are mature should take such a view of things. And if on some point you think differently, that too God will make clear to you. ¹⁶ Only let us live up to what we have already attained.



> The Key to moving ahead in your marriage is to “forget what is behind”

This does not erase the past

This is not pretending that failures and sin have not happened

This is about; “not being mastered by anything” 1 Cor. 6:12

> Without a vision we “cast off restraints”> we are not focused on His plan or His purpose for our lives and for our marriages. We need a “Marriage Goal”.

> Gods calling for your marriage is not the same as the worlds.

Film Clip 36:04 to 37:29

Let's Talk About It: Never Give Up

1. What does Dave's father mean when he says that “your actions always follow your beliefs?”
2. What is a key to overcoming defeat?
3. What is the impact of defeat on those around you?

What Are We Looking At?

2 Corinthians 4:17

Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. ¹⁷ For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. ¹⁸ *So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.*

> A strong marriage is not something you find, it is something you work for.

>” If your marriage is tough, get down on your knees and thank God that he has given you an opportunity for unparalleled spirit growth. You have the prime potential to excel in Christian character and obedience.” Sacred Marriage

Romans 5:3



Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; ⁴ perseverance, character; and character, hope. ⁵ And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us

> The perfect marriage= perseverance, character, hope, God’s love in our hearts.

> We are often the kernel of wheat , dead and in the soil ready to produce a crop.

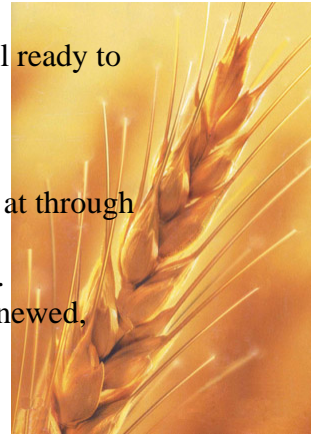
>What are we learning about ourselves and about our spouse?

> With God all things are possible....so “all things” need to be looked at through His healing eyes, not through our “Rose Colored Glasses”

> God’s purpose is greater than our surviving and being happy.

> He is changing our entire way of thinking. Our minds are renewed, even when it comes to defeat.

> **Defeat + Hope = Overcoming**



Game ON! Never Give Up...Be Ready!

1. Be ready for the battle.

Eph 6:10ff> Put on the full armor of God. All of it! The enemies battle plan are his schemes.

2. Be ready for the sacrifice.

Your routines and places of emotional safety will have to change. Only when He is your strength will there be growth in your life/marriage. The sacrifice = freedom, not slavery.

3. Be ready for the changes.

Change is reflected as you are conformed into His image.

i.e. forgiving, dealing with anger, growing in spiritual gifts, and practical things like new friends, time usage, commitments that need to be broken.

4. Be ready to be alone.

Others will give up before you: On your spouse, your marriage, your passion, your kids.

5. Be ready for healing

Know that God IS AT WORK in the storm. You will move from the ER to New Life.

6. Be ready for a testimony

Never be ashamed of the work that God has done in your life. The devil hates testimonies

7. Be ready for God’s vision

What is your faith vision for your marriage? Start by picking a scripture.

Jeremiah 29:11 His plans are beyond explanation.

¹¹For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, *plans to give you a hope and a future.*

