

Discouragement

(Num. 21:4)

Discouragement will either destroy us or we destroy discouragement. Discouragement is acrippler, it will immobilize you. Is it the greatest enemy we face. It is satan's biggest weapon! Discouragement = shortened, grieved, impatience, distressed, much discouraged, faith in evil and everything that can go wrong. Opens the door to all that is bad. Courage To be strong, alert, courageous, brave, bold, stout, solid
Faith in God and good - Opens the door to all that is good.

I. Light exposes darkness

- a. We get discouraged when we don't get our own way.
We think too much of ourselves, we expect too much of ourselves. (Rom. 12:3)
- b. Jesus won't ever fail or be discouraged. (Isa. 42:4)
- c. When we serve and do all as unto the Lord we will not be discouraged. When we serve ourselves or man we fail and become discouraged. (Col. 3:17)
- d. Discouragement is a barrier to faith - both cannot operate at the same time.
Be it done unto you according to your discouragement. (Matt. 9:29, Mark 11:23,24, Mark 16:17-18)
Be of good cheer - I (Jesus) have overcome the world. (John 16:33)
- e. The flesh (carnal nature) will always say to be discouraged, feel sorry for yourself, lay down and take it easy, you deserve it. (Rom. 8:5-9)
- f. Paul promoted courage - (Phil. 1:6, Phil. 1:20, Phil 4:14, II Cor. 2:14, II Cor. 4:16-1)

II. How do we turn from discouragement?

The Key: I the Lord thy God am with thee!

- a. Jesus is the same today and forever. (Heb. 13:8)
- b. The word never changes, it is the same. God commanded us to be of good courage. This is fulfilled in Love - Love God unto obedience. We choose courage or we choose discouragement. (Joshua 1:1-9)
Does God get discouraged over our petty little problems. God already knows when we fail, going to fail, not pray, lie, sin, etc. God called us as we were - He wanted us. God has predetermined what He wants for us, but it depends on our determining what we want from Him.
- c. His promise of being with us - removed every opportunity for discouragement. God always knows what we have need of. (Heb. 13:5, Matt. 7:7,8)
Before you can have great faith in the word, you must have great faith in Almighty God!
Our faith must be in God. Then we won't have problems with His word.
If God can't hold it together how do you expect to? (Mark 11:22)
- d. Confidence (Psa. 27:3,5, Heb. 10:35, Eph. 3:10-12, I John 5:14-15)
- e. When we hide in God - all the enemy or anyone sees is God. They can not see us. God will hide us in the secret place. (Psa. 91)

III. What gets us into discouragement?

- a. Circumstances (the way)
Causes you to be impatience, depressed, much discouraged (Num. 21:4)
- b. Fear of Man (stronger in the USA than other parts of the world) (Prov. 29:25) There is a group of people called "they" who rule our lives. What do "they" say, what do "they" think? The control from this group called "they" brings confusion. You exalt "they" to a place higher than God.

III. What gets us into discouragement? (cont'd)

- c. Being discontent. (Heb.13:5,6, Phil. 4:11)
- d. Our own failures. (I John 1:9)
Our mistakes or failures are not God's.

We have grace by the blood. We might fail, because we are not God!
We should walk in what we have come into and there would be no problems.
Letting our failures bring discouragement is just plain pride. We thought we were something and when we found out we weren't we became discouraged, because we tried to walk in our own strength.

Face our failures and get rid of them. Consecrate unto the Lord afresh. Get up and face the failure yourself. Your flesh will say to lie down and give up and be discouraged.

- e. Our own weaknesses
Moses thought he could not do the job. (Ex 4:10)
Jeremiah thought he was too young (Jer. 1:6-8)
Gideon said he was poor and the least of his house. (Jud. 6:14-16)
- f. We can do God's will and complete it even in the midst of our failures and mistakes. God does not condone sin, but sin won't stop His will. Sin goes under the blood. (Heb. 9:22, Rev. 1:5)
- g. Our weaknesses are not the problem - it is that we think we are too strong to let God be strong in us. God takes the weakness and turns it into His strength to accomplish what He needs done. Discouragement is the fruit of pride, love for yourself. We get so discouraged from seeing what we are not - but he who looks unto the Lord shall never be discouraged or ashamed. (II Tim. 1:12)
- h. Discouragement leads to murmuring and speaking against God. (Num. 21:4,5)
Discouragement is sin. You come against God and His leaders. Rebellious and murmuring thoughts begin with discouragement.
- i. Discouragement is speaking against God. Discouragement says He has failed us. He has not kept His word or His promises. (Psa. 78:19,22-32)
- j. Discouragement is contagious. (Num. 13:31-33, Num. 14:1,2,24)
- k. If we are to wholly follow the Lord, we must give a "good report" at all times. (Heb. 11:1,2, Rom. 10:16) When we give a "bad report" we are a carrier of discouragement.
- l. Finally my brethren (Eph. 6:10)