

Elijah Now

Turning Hearts Preparing People

Entitlement Part 2

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Welcome to the battlefield ~

Last month we talked about entitlement – the little voice that fuels our desire to abandon trust and get what we want to make our life more comfortable.

This desire for comfort (and avoidance of discomfort) comes in many forms. It is spiritual, emotional, physical, and intellectual. It encompasses every facet of our lives. I'm not a masochist. I don't like pain. That's obvious because I have well engineered habits that steer me away from discomfort. Give me a sunny meadow, not a battlefield. Things die on battlefields.

If I think I should be living in a meadow, no wonder I struggle with entitlement. I'm living in denial. Reality is I am squarely in a battlefield. But I want daisies, I continue to whine. Jesus says, come to me and I will give you weapons. "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes" Eph. 6:10-11. The rest of the section goes on to say that the battle isn't physical but spiritual. There is a spiritual element to every facet of our lives.

Do we consider ourselves living in a battle? I don't want to live in a battle. If I believe that then even stupid little choices I make take on more magnitude. The choice to maintain my comfort at the expense of entering into the battle becomes unsatisfactory and unacceptable. It also isn't in alignment with how I want to be. I can't be a mighty warrior who avoids the battle.

The battle is in little things. We're teaching Caleb that even when we doesn't want to clean up his legos, he can ask Jesus to help him. The part that challenges him (and all of us, too, I might add), is that part where we have to enter in and start. The power doesn't come until we start to move. The legos have to start plunking into the bin – the Help will come.

So what does that mean to me?

I don't have the energy to meet my family's needs today... focus on Jesus and start folding the laundry.

I don't have the patience to be a mom today... put myself in timeout, focus on doing all things in Christ and come out with a smile. Etc, etc, etc...

The comfortable thing is to disengage or numb out (how many good movies/books have you imbibed lately?) But that doesn't win skirmishes, battles or prepare you for anything. All it does is maintain your comfort and add urgency to the voice that says you should have it different than you do. That doesn't help you. It is also untrue.

Take the step into discomfort and move into the battle. Don't go alone though, take the step with Jesus.

Blessings,

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