

Bulldog Faith is Aggressive

Sunday, July 7, 2019

A. Luke 22:31 The Devil's Game Plan

1. Verses 31,32 And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.
2. The devil's game plan is to wear down our faith through pressure, disappointment and discouragement.
3. He wants us to back away from using our faith to take a strong stand for what belongs to us.
4. He wants us to live in a continual state of retreat.
5. I was in that condition some years ago.

B. "I Want You to Get More Aggressive About Your Faith!"

1. Our family moved four times (and lived in five places) in 2002.
 - a. Sold our house.
 - b. Moved to an apartment for a month.
 - c. Moved to a rent house for a month.
 - d. Moved in with the Copelands for six weeks.
 - e. Moved into another rent house while renovating a house.
2. My attitude had slipped and my faith took a major hit.
3. I sat down at the little desk at the Copelands to pray.
4. "I want you to get more aggressive about your faith!"
5. That is when my study of Bulldog Faith began.

C. 1 John 5:4 What is, "Bulldog Faith?"

1. Verse 4 (PGT) This is the victory that overcomes the world, even our Bulldog Faith!
2. Faith (GK) PISTIS
 - a. An aggressive, forward directed force.
 - b. Never passive, backward or retreating.
3. A bulldog is aggressive, persistent and determined.
 - a. It is a breed of remarkable ferocity, courage and tenacity of grip.
 - b. It's jaw protrudes and it's nose is indented in order for it to bite down on a bone and keep breathing until it becomes completely theirs.
4. Bulldog faith won't quit, give up or let go.
5. Bulldog faith says, "God's Word is mine now. Devil, you can't take it from me. Just be assured that when this is over, I WIN!"

D. Hebrews 11:32-34 Bulldog Faith is Aggressive

1. Aggressive = An all out effort to win; boldly and relentlessly assertive, forward, pushy, militant, forceful, tough, violent; ready to fight.
2. Verses 32-34 And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gedeon, and of Barak, and of Samson, and of Jephthae; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets: Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens.
3. Mark 11:22-24 And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God. For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.
 - a. Receive (GK) Aggressive word
 - b. Take something and hold on to it.
 - c. To seize with a grip that can't be shaken off.
4. 1 Samuel 17:4-11,15,16, 24, 26, 32-37, 43-51, 53, 54
 - a. Verse 48 (AMPC) When the Philistine came forward to meet David, David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet the Philistine.
 - b. (HEB) Suddenly, he went headlong with great speed.
 - c. (HEB) So far from fear was he.
 - d. David knew his covenant with God and aggressively ran toward the enemy.
5. We do the same thing with whatever the devil tries to do to us.
 - a. Bulldog faith attacks the problem headlong with God's Word.
 - b. "Devil, get out of my way. I will either go past you or I am going to run through you. Either way, I am going to take everything that rightfully belongs to me in Christ Jesus!"
 - c. "Somebody is goin' down today—and it ain't gonna be me!"