



We're in this together!



Previously...

- Found we need to build *strong families* if we're going to be good disciples!
 - ‘*Foundation*’ from which all ministry flows! **G1/2**
 - Includes singles of all varieties... **1Cor 7**
 - Strong Home-and-Church family life...
Ephesians 5/6 Colossians 3
 - “By this will all men know that you are My disciples, if you have love one to another!” **John 13**



Previously...

- If the *foundation* is our strong families...
- Then the *site work* on which we build a good foundation is the Word of God!
 - All the promises to become partakers of the divine nature of God... **2Peter 1.3,4**
 - “Everything we ever wanted to know about life...” is in the Book!
 - “Make speed to know...” **2Timothy 2.15**
 - “Be doers/not hearers only...” **Jam 1.22**



“Everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them is like a wise man who built his house on the rock, and when the storms came it didn't fall because its foundation was on the rock!” **Matthew 7.24,25**



And we learned
all that from...
the Word of God!



**And with His words and their
new 'family' ties, they went
out, preaching and healing all
those who were oppressed
by the devil!**



**Good discipleship means
we prepare for spiritual
warfare in hard world
encounters!**



Ephesians 6.10ff

- “Be strong in the Lord and the power of His might! Put on the whole armor of God so that you can make your stand against the devil’s schemes. *For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, authorities, and powers of this world’s darkness and the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms!*” –**Lexicon**



Text...

- **‘Demon powers/activity’ are not the explanations of ancient, primal people for bad psychological reactions...**
- **A hard reality of our broken world...**
- **Validated by Jesus and His Word...**
- **We have them here... and what we ‘see’ is the ‘chip’ of the iceberg!**



Luke 10.1ff

- “Go your ways, behold, *I am sending you out as lambs among wolves...* and they went and returned saying, ‘Lord, even devils are subject to us through Your name...’ And He said, ‘I beheld Satan, as lightning, fall from heaven. *Behold, I give to you power: exousia: privilege, force, capacity, competency, delegated influence, freedom, mastery,*



Luke 10.1ff

- “jurisdiction, strength, over all the power: *dunamis*: ability, might, mighty deeds, miracle working power, power, strength, violence, *to tread on serpents (fig: malicious poisoners) and scorpions (fig: stingers) and over all the power: (dunamis) of the enemy* and nothing by any means will hurt you!”



Text...

- All power and authority *has been* transferred to us...
- That power is superior to all the power of the enemy...
 - Even the “signs and wonders” kind!
 - “Deceivers will come in My name!”
 - “Try every spirit to see what sort it is!”
- Yet, there can still be ‘breakdowns!’



Matthew 17.15ff

- “Have mercy on my son: he has seizures and in suffering terribly. He often falls into the fire or into the water. I brought him to Your disciples but they could not heal him. Then Jesus said, O unbelieving and perverse generation, how long must I remain with you? How long must I put up with you? Bring the boy here to Me. And Jesus rebuked the demon and came out of the boy: and he was healed from that moment. Afterward, the



Matthew 17.15ff

- disciples came to Jesus privately and asked, ‘Why couldn’t we drive it out?’ Jesus replied, “Because you have so little faith: for truly I tell you, If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, move from here to there and it will move. Nothing will be impossible unto you. But this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting.” –**Lexicon**



Text...

- Jesus did not go pray and fast to get this demon to come out...
- We don't pray and fast over to *gain* ascendancy over demons [given!]...
- We pray and fast to *lose* our doubt and unbelief that His name works!
- And when we stand in faith – look out devil – nothing is impossible to move!



Acts 19.13ff

- “Now there were some itinerant exorcists who tried to invoke the name of Jesus over those with evil spirits. They would say, ‘I bind you by Jesus whom Paul proclaims!’ Seven men were doing this. Eventually, one of the spirits said, ‘Jesus I know, and I know about Paul, but who are you? Then the man



Acts 19.13ff

- “with the evil spirit jumped on them and overpowered them all. The attack was so violent that they ran out of the house naked and wounded. This became known to all living in the city and fear came over all of them. So the name of the Lord Jesus was held in high honor!” –**Lexicon**



**Being known and
knowing who we are
and what we have is
vitally important!**



Acts 13.4ff

- “And being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went... And preached the word of God... and came up against a sorcerer and false prophet, Barjesus... and he was made blind for a season and the people were astonished at the power of God... And the apostles continued, but John Mark left for home.”



Text...

- **Whatever it was...**
 - the reality/rigors of the “mission” field...
 - that he was simply young and homesick...
 - the contest with the demon world...
- **He was not emotionally prepared for hard world encounters...**
- **He had ‘put his hand to the plow,’ was now ‘looking back’ and done...!**



Compendium...

- We live in a real world where much of the spirit side is ignored or feared...
- We must know who sends us, and that the power of His name “keeps” us...
- But we must stand in faith, believing that no matter, nothing is impossible...
- Our stance makes a big difference for the honor of His name!



Compendium...

- The contest is real... and can appear to be stubborn...
 - “They brought him and the spirit dropped him to the ground, rolling around, foaming at the mouth! Jesus spoke, ‘If you believe all things are possible...’ and He rebuked the foul spirit and the spirit cried out, convulsed the boy so that he appeared dead, but Jesus lifted him up.” **Mark 9.20ff**



Compendium...

- The contest is real... and can appear to be stubborn...
 - “My name is Legion... and we are many... *but they went out!*” **Mark 5.9**
 - “And when the unclean spirit had torn him and cried out, *he came out!*” **Mark 1.26**
- In all cases, Jesus stood His ground...
- And we can too!



“Reality, Rigor and Regard!”