

Zoe: Nuts & Bolts – Do You Have the Will?

Zoe Traits Part 3: The Will for Fanatical Discipline?

Slide Notations

So far... Have entered the nuts and bolts stage of having the Zoe life of God! Talking about the three attributes of sustained success... Fanatical Discipline... Empirical Foundations... Healthy Fear...

Last week... Determined that luck is not a factor of Christian living/success... It's preparation, "fanatical" preparation that determines victorious living! Amundsen's over preparation! Brown's 20 mile march!

Amundsen's Philosophy! You don't wait until you're in an unexpected storm to discover that you need more strength and endurance... *you peddle a bicycle from Norway to Spain to build up.* You don't wait until you're shipwrecked to determine if you can eat raw dolphin... *you experiment with dockside sushi to see if you can eat it and keep it down.* You don't wait until you're on an Antarctic journey to become a superb skier and dog handler... *you train with Eskimo's who have lived in polar conditions for centuries learning what to eat, what to wear, what modes of transportation works best.* You prepare with intensity, years ahead, so that when conditions turn against you, you can draw from a deep reservoir of strength. And equally, you are prepared to strike hard in favorable conditions!

Brown's 20 Mile March! Is about having concrete, clear, intelligent, and rigorously pursued performance mechanisms that keep you on track. The 20 Mile March creates two types of *self-imposed discomfort*: (1) the discomfort of unwavering commitment to high performance in difficult conditions, and (2) the discomfort of holding back in good conditions.

Other examples... Stryker vs. USSC... *20% per year growth vs. gone!* Southwest vs. PSA... *Profitability for 30 yrs. vs. gone!* Progressive vs. Safeco... *Profitable 27:30 yrs. vs. 10:27* Microsoft vs. Apple... *Improved flawed product for dominance vs. turbulence* Intel vs. AMD... *Doubled chip complexity every 2 yrs. vs. struggling for share!*

Intel vs. AMD AMD proclaimed it would become the first semiconductor company to generate 60 percent growth two years in a row, would grow more in a single year than it had in its entire 14-year prior history, would become #1 in integrated circuits by the end of the decade, ahead of Intel, Texas Instruments, National Semiconductor, Motorola, and all American competitors. It was quite a contrast to Intel, where Gordon Moore stated at the exact same time that he aimed to limit Intel's growth so as to minimize the chances of losing control. Intel still grew at a rapid rate but held growth back relative to AMD; from 1981 through 1984, AMD grew at nearly twice the rate of Intel and faster than every other American competitor. Then in 1985 the business collapsed in a recession. Intel and AMD suffered, but AMD suffered much worse. Sales fell 25% in one year. AMD, which had tripled its long-term debt, didn't recover for years. When AMD and Intel emerged from the storm, Intel pulled ahead for good. In the 12 years prior to the 1985 industry meltdown, AMD's stock returns outpaced Intel's, fueled by tripling sales from 1981-84. But coming out of the industry meltdown, AMD fell behind while Intel soared; from the start of 1987 through 1994, Intel's shareholder returns outpaced AMD's by more than five times, then continued on pace to beat AMD by more than thirty times through 2002. Today Intel is the undisputed world leader/chips!

"If you deplete your resources, run yourself to exhaustion, and then get caught at the wrong moment by an external shock, you can be in serious trouble. By sticking with your 20 Mile March, you reduce the chances of getting crippled by a big, unexpected shock. Every 20 Mile March company pulled further ahead of its less successful comparison company during turbulent times. Ferocious instability favors the 20 Mile Marchers. This is when they really shine."

"The children of this world are wiser in their generation than the children of light..." Lk16.8

Luke 14.28-30 For which of you, intending to build a tower, *does not sit down first and count the cost*, whether he has enough to finish it — lest, after he has laid the foundation, and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, saying, *'This man started something he was not able to finish.'*

Luke 14.31-32 Or what king, going to make war against another king, *does not sit down first* and consider whether he is able with 10,000 to meet him who comes against him with 20,000? Or else, while the other is still a great way off, *he sends a delegation and asks conditions of peace.*

Both similes address the issue of preparing to successfully follow the Lord into His life and mission...

Luke 14.26-27 If anyone comes to Me and loves his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life more than Me, he cannot be My disciple. And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple. **Counting the cost, building up, muscling up, for success!**

Successful Christians... *ARE NOT* more creative, more visionary, more ambitious, more risk seeking, more heroic or bold, more "lucky," stronger, smarter, richer or prettier...

The successful ones ARE fanatically disciplined, live on proven truth, live w/ proactive fear, take full responsibility for their actions, and never blame people, events or circumstances for failure! ARE the ones who march forward day by day, who fall forward by making observations of what went wrong, determining not to find themselves there again! ARE the ones who want the Divine Life God offers to us, surrender to Him all hindering issues of self-rule, who listen for His voice and do what He says!

"...are doers of the Word and not hearers only, because if we hear only we deceive ourselves and defeat ourselves!" **Jam 1.22** "But if we look into the perfect Word, not being a hearer only, but a doer of it, we will be successful in our doings!" **Jam 1.25** "No man who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God!" **Luke 9.63**

Fanatical Disciplines...

Love God more than anything! Mt22.37-40 DYHTW? Only here can you properly love your wife, kids, family, friends, life and stuff! W/O Him first, will love selfishly, possessively, and selectively! W/Him first, we can love preferably, openly and inclusively! W/Him first, you have a King on the throne of your life!

Hearing, reading, meditating, writing, doing the Word of God! R10 DYHTW? This is where faith comes from! FAITH = MUSCLE = STRENGTH ***Pray in the Holy Spirit! Ju20*** DYHTW? Weapon against confusion! Voice of direction/wisdom/strategy! Why do you think there is so much confusion about the directive to pray in the Spirit?

Train w/people who are training hard! 2T2.3 1C11.1 Heb10.25 DYHTW? "Don't be deceived, worthless friends wither good habits!" **1C15.33** "We run to win... and those who strive to win are temperate in all things (upper limit)... and that's how I run, intentionally, so that I am not sidelined!" **1C9.24-27**

Serve w/people who are serving hard! Serving is using the strength you gain from working out! Not peacocks! "I will gladly spend and be spent for your sakes; though the more I love you the less I am loved!" **2C12.15** "Let this mind be in you as it was in Christ who did not stand on His reputation but made Himself a servant, humbling Himself and being obedient to the death!" **Ph2.5-8**

Stop looking back! Lk9.63 DYHTW? Siren song is a "hatching cockatrice!" Talking about the "good old days" is self-deceiving and self-defeating! It takes a will of steel to not turn around to answer the calling of your name! "Put off the old man..." **2C5.17 E4.22** "Old man is crucified..." **R6.6** "Have you forgotten you were purged from your old sins!" **2P1.9**

Look forward! Live forward! Fall forward!

"Blessed is that servant whom the Lord finds working when He comes!" **Mt 24.46**