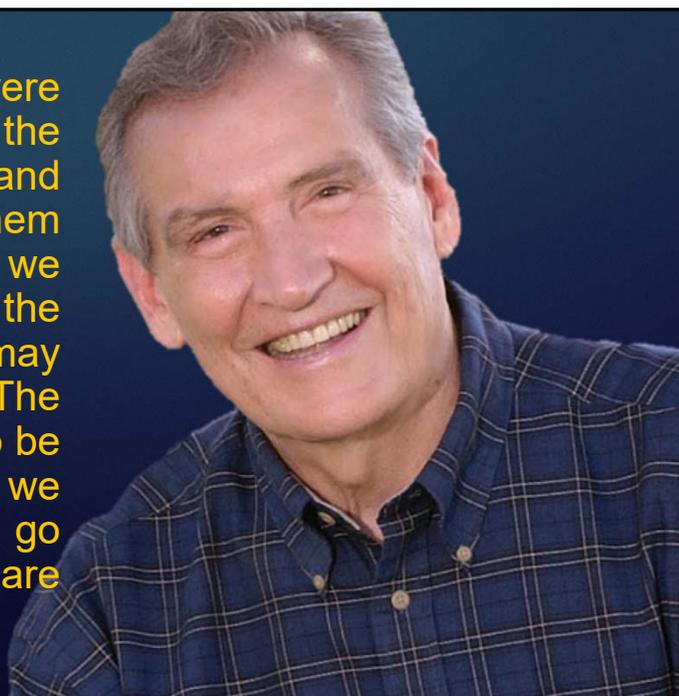
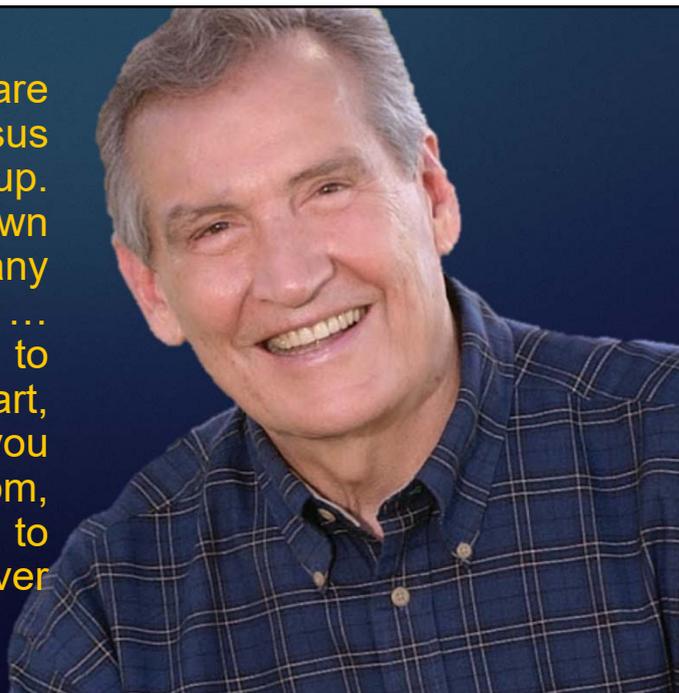


When our plans seem to fail

“Years ago, some men were on a leaky old ship in the middle of a rough and stormy sea. One of them asked the captain, ‘Are we safe?’ He said, ‘Well, the boilers are weak and may explode at any moment. The ship is taking on water. To be very honest with you, we may go up, or we may go down, but at any rate, we are going on.’”



And that's the way we are as we face today. Jesus may come; we may go up. We may die, and go down and then up, but at any rate, we are going on. ... [A]llow the Holy Spirit to invade your heart, convicting and drawing you to Himself. Ask for wisdom, courage, and faith to continue on, whatever happens!



Ps 37:4-5 Delight yourself also in the Lord, and He shall give you the desires of your heart. ⁵Commit your way to the Lord, trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass ⁶He shall bring forth your righteousness as the light, and your justice as the noonday ⁷ Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for Him; do not fret because of him who prospers in his way, because of the man who brings wicked schemes to pass. ⁸Cease from anger, and forsake wrath; do not fret—it only causes harm.



Heb 11:17-19 By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, ¹⁸of whom it was said, “In Isaac your seed shall be called,” ¹⁹concluding that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense.



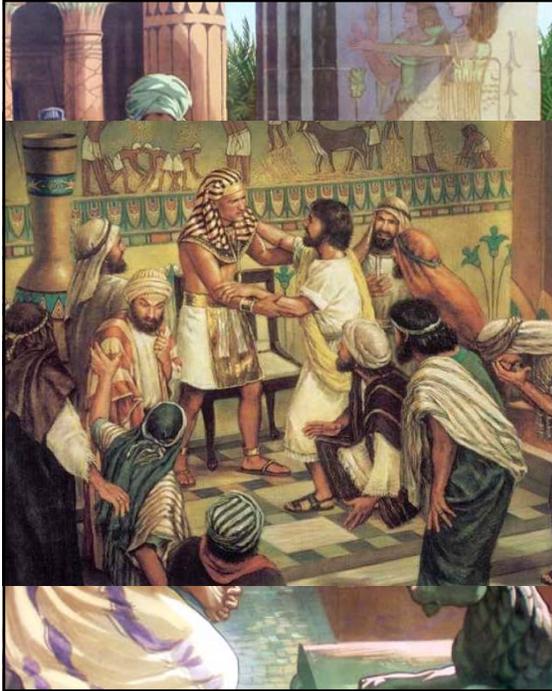
Gen 37:5-11,18-19 Now Joseph had a dream, and he told it to his brothers; and they hated him even more. ⁶So he said to them, "Please hear this dream which I have dreamed: ⁷There we were, binding sheaves in the field. Then behold, my sheaf arose and also stood upright; and indeed your sheaves stood all around and bowed down to my sheaf." ⁸And his brothers said to him, "Shall you indeed reign over us? Or shall you indeed have dominion over us?" So they hated him even more for his dreams and for his words.



⁹Then he dreamed still another dream and told it to his brothers, and said, “Look, I have dreamed another dream. And this time, the sun, the moon, and the eleven stars bowed down to me.” ¹⁰So he told it to his father and his brothers; and his father rebuked him and said to him, “What is this dream that you have dreamed? Shall your mother and I and your brothers indeed come to bow down to the earth before you?” ¹¹And his brothers envied him, but his father kept the matter in mind.



¹⁸Now when they saw him afar off, even before he came near them, they conspired against him to kill him. ¹⁹Then they said to one another, “Look, this dreamer is coming! ²⁰Come therefore, let us now kill him and cast him into some pit; and we shall say, ‘Some wild beast has devoured him.’ We shall see what will become of his dreams!”



Gen 42:3-7 So Joseph's ten brothers went down to buy grain in Egypt. ⁴But Jacob did not send Joseph's brother Benjamin with his brothers, for he said, "Lest some calamity befall him." ⁵And the sons of Israel went to buy grain among those who journeyed, for the famine was in the land of Canaan. ⁶Now Joseph was governor over the land; and it was he who sold to all the people of the land. And Joseph's brothers came and **bowed down before him with their faces to the earth.**

Eph 1:18-20 the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power ²⁰which He worked in Christ ...

2 Cor 5:7 For we walk by faith, not by sight.

Rom 8:25 But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with perseverance.

- **Don't lose perspective**
“if we hope for what we do not see”
- **Don't lose passion**
“we eagerly”
- **Don't lose patience**
“wait for it”
- **Don't lose perseverance**
“with perseverance”

Remember:

1. In God's Kingdom, life comes from death.

Jn 12:24-25 Most assuredly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain. ²⁵He who loves his life will lose it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.

Matt 10:39 He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it.

2. The Christian's life is the way of the cross

Matt 16:24 Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.

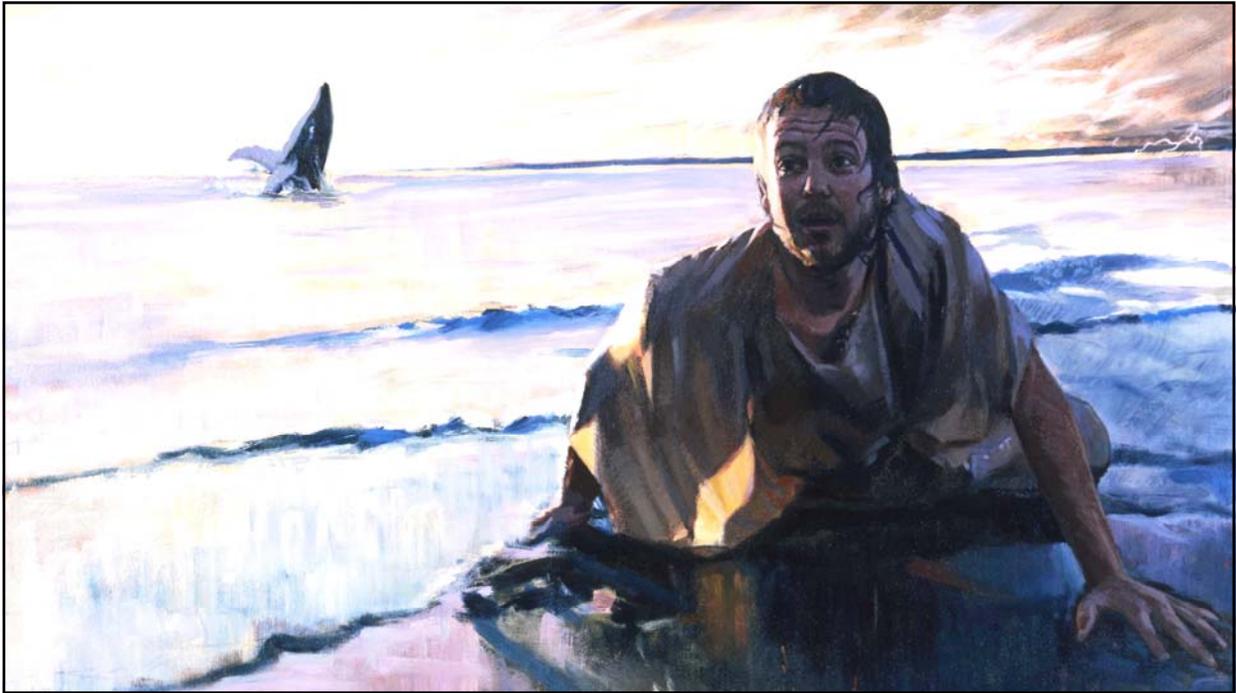
Acts 14:21-22 And when they had preached the gospel to that city and made many disciples, they returned to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch, ²²strengthening the souls of the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith, and saying, "We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God."

1 Cor 15:30-31 And why do we stand in jeopardy every hour? ³¹I affirm, by the boasting in you which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily.



3. It is not until we are prepared to surrender to God's will that He can use us.

Jonah 1:12,15 And he said to them, "Pick me up and throw me into the sea; then the sea will become calm for you. For I know that this great tempest is because of me." ... ¹⁵So they picked up Jonah and threw him into the sea, and the sea ceased from its raging.



1 Pet 5:5-6 "...God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble." ⁶Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time,

4. We never waste our time sowing good seeds.

Gal 6:7 Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.

Ecc1 11:1 Cast your bread upon the waters, for you will find it after many days.

Lk 6:38 Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you.”

The cycle of a dream:

- The **birth** of a dream
- The **death** of a dream
- The **resurrection** of a dream
- The **fulfillment** of a dream