

Ready for the Wave

By Christine Trier

I didn't know what to say or do. I just sat there, staring at the wall, breathless. I had just ended a phone call that blindsided me and threatened to completely change the direction of my life.

I looked down at the ring on my finger. Though it remained, its promise became dim in light of the giant that stood before me. My fiancé had made some major theological changes that shook the foundation of our relationship. I didn't know what it all meant. I just knew that as the wave hit, our foundation shifted, and we weren't seeing eye to eye anymore.



Now I had a decision to make—would this wave move me, too? Or was my faith and the truth that I knew a strong enough foundation to hold my ground?

That moment taught me something near and dear to my heart. As women of God, we need to know the Word and know theology. This isn't something that can be done for us. It is something we must, with the help of the Holy Spirit, do ourselves. We cannot ride on the back of someone else's faith, hoping they know the answers we don't. There will come a time when we face a giant that will demand the truth we know. In that moment, we can only stand on what we know.

Second Timothy 3:12-13 says, "Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil people and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived." We must be ready so that we can know the way in which we need to walk. None of us who follow Jesus are exempt from trials in this life. You and I may never walk through the same difficulties, but that doesn't mean they won't come. And when we hit a crossroads in life, we need that truth to help us know which direction to go.

I reached out to people I trusted and sought godly wisdom, but in the end, it had to be my decision. So I sat down with my Bible and the Holy Spirit, and asked Him to release everything I believed and my fiancé believed, and to leave only what His Word said.

In the end I came to the truths I had before and, though the wave came, my foundation remained. I slipped off that ring and placed it in the hand of my giant, giving him the truth I knew: that my God had to be number one and that, even though I loved my fiancé dearly, that foundation would never last.

We must be ready so we can know the difference between "right" and "almost right." Second Timothy 3:16-17 says, "All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work." The breath of God will help you recognize the voice of God, and

the voice of God makes all the difference in knowing what is truly right. Many voices will call out and whisper lies that sound so close to truth they're almost believable. But it is the voice of God that will always speak truth into your soul in the chaos, just as in the stillness of the night. His Word will help to equip you for whatever lies ahead.

I could only make this decision because of the truths I knew. We have said for years that we need to make our faith our own; it's time we start living that out. Because when that wave comes and that giant towers over you, backs will break, but a firm foundation of truth will hold strong. We can't skate by relying on someone else's knowledge; we must grow in our own. In the end, it is you who will stand before the Lord and answer for the way you lived—there are no backs to lean on there. You will have only knees to bow down before the King of Kings.

Second Timothy 4:2-5 exhorts, "Preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry."

We must be ready so we will not be deceived or swept away by false teachings. Time and time again, I have watched friends swept into the depths of the ocean because of a weak foundation that lead to a weak will. They believed false teaching that sounded so right, but had no Biblical backing. False teaching preyed on their fallen nature until it captivated their minds and their hearts.

Each day, I am reminded of God's grace in knowing that could have easily been me. But, by His amazing and unrelenting grace, I stood ready. Tell me, when that wave comes rushing toward you, will you be ready?



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