

Discipleship Tip: Enthusiasm

The word enthusiasm is from the Greek word *entheo*, meaning in God.

Enthusiasm is a key component to building and growing your connect group. Get enthusiastic and your connect group members will be too!

Connect Group Notes 18 July 2010

Great to Fight, Better to Win! – Ps Mark Ramsay

1 Kings 17:1-6 (NKJV). "5 So he went and did according to the word of the LORD, for he went and stayed by the Brook Cherith, which flows into the Jordan."

There are lots of Christians fighting but God's plan is for us to win. Paul said we should "run to win" the race set before us (**1 Cor 9:24 MSG**). Jesus didn't come to fight but to defeat the powers of darkness.

If there were no problems for us to overcome we could not become "more than conquerors" (**Rom 8:37**). There is a difference in our mindsets between seeking to fight & seeking to win. Elijah fought; telling King Ahab who worshipped Baal the storm-god that the LORD would cause a drought.

At the Brook Cherith, God taught Elijah some keys to help him win:

1. The will to win is nothing without the will to prepare to win.
Skills, training & knowledge help us to become good at what God has called us to do.
2. Greatness is always on the other side of inconvenience.
Problems are unavoidable but when bad things happen to good people; good people find God & move one. Peace isn't the absence of problems but the presence of God.
3. As you believe in your heart, so you are.
You need to change what you believe in your heart to change your thinking. What you believe (faith) is what your heart knows when you don't think.
Rom 10:9. "If you believe in your heart you will be saved".
John 7:38. "Out of his heart will flow streams of living water".
God stretched Elijah's beliefs because He unexpectedly used ravens to provide food.

Elijah didn't sidestep what God was trying to teach him & he became an over-comer.

TALK ABOUT

- **What can we do in the secret places to become good at what God has called us to do?**
- **Is there a problem you are facing where you need the presence of God?**
- **What do you believe in your heart?**

REPORTING <http://myc3church.net/cgi-bin/exform.pl>

Christian Essentials

Need to know more about Jesus Christ? Whether you've been a Christian for a while or recently made a decision for Jesus, discovering more about Him is essential to living a faithful and flourishing Christian life. Christian Essentials is a great course to recommend to your connect group members (whether they have been Christians 2 days or 20 years), and even to go to as a connect group. It starts on Sunday 25th July at 11am and on Tuesday 27th July at 7pm and is held in the Glasshouse at the Oxford Falls Campus. Contact cec@myc3church.net or call the church (9972 8688) for more details.