

Key to Victory

by George Verwer

The key to living a victorious life is simple faith in Christ, trusting Him to help us and believing that we are in Him.

Duration: 15:41

Scripture: Matthew 18:3, Mark 11:24, Romans 8:1, 2 Corinthians 5:17, Galatians 2:20, Ephesians 2:10, Colossians 3:3

Topics: "Victory"

Description

In this sermon, the preacher shares a story about a young preacher who was asked to give a short message. The preacher emphasizes the importance of having a simple and unwavering belief in God's ability to work things out. He encourages the audience to trust in Jesus and not rely on their own understanding or seek detailed explanations. The preacher reminds them to take one step at a time and not be overwhelmed by future challenges.

Transcript

Just believe in the Lord Jesus Christ immediately to the book of Acts. Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved. When God comes beating in on us in terms of the appropriation of the life of victory in reality and whatever other name you want to call it and he says it's by faith, by simple faith you believe and that settles it, you say, oh no, no, no I can't believe that, it's not complicated enough.

Can't believe that, it's too easy. I never forget being at a conference here in Great Britain, I think it was my third day in the British Isles. I was so green that they were, well I won't describe it, it was a pretty interesting sight because I was told, you know, as soon as I got in Britain I'd never make an impact here, the whole thing was impossible.

I pulled my sort of loud suit, it was a brown suit, took it off and put a black suit on me and a black tie and of course the suit was big, I had big suspenders and I could hardly walk and I went to this conference and the speaker at the conference had a checked shark-shoe tie and a red sport coat. I was really confused about how to make an impact in England, believe me. Anyway, Lindsay Blegg was one of the speakers at that conference and I'll never forget his message, you know, he really knows how to give a good message in short, that's what I'm hoping for tonight, believe me I am.

And he mentioned that night how he learned to give a short message, he was all excited when he was a young preacher and he was in a meeting and he knew that some of the elders were really concerned that

he'd be short, like one in the assembly I spoke at a few weeks ago introduced me and told me as I walked up he has 20 minutes, but they were a bit concerned that he was going to go overboard and speak a little long and so he, in the beginning of his message, you know, he sort of patted it, he said, well I really believe in these days we need the sincere milk of the word. One of the little elders in the front row popped up, he said, yes we need sincere milk, but brother tonight we want it condensed. And Lindsay Blegg that night gave us a very condensed message and he said, what do you think is the most used phrase for the word or for a Christian in the Bible? Is it disciple? Is it soldier? Is it steward? What is the word that's used the most in the Bible to describe the Christian? You know what it is? The two words, in Christ.

Again and again in the epistle, throughout the Holy Testament, the Christian is described more than any other way simply as one who's in Christ. And tonight you have that relationship in Christ by simple faith. Tomorrow as you wake up, do you want to know victory tomorrow? Do you want to know victory tomorrow in your Christian life? Maybe you've been waiting for me to give another invitation toward the end of the conference on the rest, or maybe you've been waiting for a longer prayer meeting, or maybe you've been waiting to understand it all, and then you're going to take some kind of leap.

No, tomorrow morning as you rise and even now you can know victory in Christ through simply believing that you are in Christ. That's right. And oh, might we climb down off the complicated cliffs of our sanctification phobias and just realize that anybody, anywhere who is born again, can also know victory in their life through faith.

This is the victory that overcomes the world, even our faith. Here are the living letters, for every child of God can obey him, defeating sin and evil pleasure by trusting Christ to help him. There's the answer for this coming year.

You're concerned about what you're going to do out there on that field--India, Persia, France, Austria. You're concerned about, are you going to make it? Some of you are really worried. Some of you know that you're even scared to talk to me.

You have the big loud mouth, and you're afraid I'm going to eat you alive. You come to my office trembling, and then you discover after you meet me that I'm just another human being just like you, and who knows, maybe I'm even trembling at you. And you've got this thing so built up in your mind, oh, am I going to make it? Am I going to be a disciple? Am I going to meet the O.N. standard? Ooh, is George one of these days going to come blasting into me and throw me out of the movement? And that's a fact that never happens to people of all kinds of ideas.

Whereas the Word of God teaches that that victory for the whole year is yours through simply trusting Christ to help you. Such, such child terminology, isn't it? Trusting Christ to do it through you. Not saying it, but believing.

Believing. And tonight I believe that God wants us to take some steps of faith and just believe. You know the words in the Book of Mark that says, if you ask anything believing, you have it.

Isn't it? If you ask for something and you believe that you shall have it, what does it say? You might have it. That's what it says. It's a revised standard perversion.

The Bible says, if you ask anything in prayer believing that you shall have it, believing that you shall receive it, ye have it. That's it. And if tonight you believe that victory is yours, that discipleship is yours, that

reality is yours, and that you can live this life if you believe it in your heart, that's it.

Tomorrow as you arise, you go forth, believe it again. And the Christian life is one constant step of faith after another. And praise God, He only causes us, or calls us to walk one step at a time.

Now this is so important because we tend to live in the future, don't we? Some of you are already thinking not about what you're going to do on O.N. this year. Some of you are already thinking about what you're going to do when you get off O.N. That's right. And the devil always likes to keep us five jumps ahead of reality.

We'll never make an impact because we're always out here. And I'm already wondering what I'm going to do in Mexico on December 12th. The moment I get in Mexico, I'll be wondering what I'm going to do in India in January.

And if we would just come back many, many steps, and realize that God is just calling us to walk one step at a time. You need to be concerned about the next few hours, and then after that, just tomorrow. As you arise up tomorrow, if you start thinking about all the problems, you can become overwhelmed.

I know I could. And I think of just ten more, as I call them, ten or eleven more teaching days that we have here. Ten or eleven more days to give you all that we possibly can to teach you what you need to know to be effective.

And I just begin to become overwhelmed. Notes come under my door, we need a session on this. Brother, when are we going to have a session on this? When are we going to have the married couple session? When are we going to have the single session? When are we going to have the message on purity? When are we going to have a session for drivers? And this and that.

And I think, let's see, we've got this session, that session, and you can become overwhelmed. But I realize each day, it's just one day at a time, and I just turn the key of faith and realize that's enough. And faith just smashes through those feelings.

Someone gave a good message on this the other morning. I won't dwell on it, but it's true. Many times our feelings just go in the exact opposite way.

For all children of feelings, we all have feelings, sentiments, emotions. Some of us more than others. Faith stands.

Faith stands and turns the key. And I believe that what we need, many of us, is simply to realize the importance of faith. Of just believing.

How many of you going to India are actually believing in your heart for the victory? You've actually taken a step of faith. You're believing. Maybe you have some problem.

You're wrestling with something tonight. Domestic problem, a social problem, a financial problem. You're not sure what field you're going to.

I wonder if you're ready just to say tonight, I believe. That's all. Not, I believe and yes, and maybe my, no.

I believe. I believe God's going to work it out. I believe Jesus is going to help.

You know what some of you want? You want to understand it, and then you're going to believe. You're getting a deal with Jesus. Now Jesus, you explain this to me.

Show me what I'm going to do when I get there, and show me how it's going to be done, and give me the outline. And many times you expect us leaders to also help with that, and give you the outline, exactly what you're going to do the next six months. And we haven't got a clue.

It's about some things anyway. But God just wants you to come and say, I believe. Just like when you were saved, you believed and you were saved.

So it is in the victorious life, we believe, and it becomes reality. Because Jesus is in us. His Holy Spirit is in us.

Christ in you, the hope of glory. You believe it, and that settles it. I'll never forget those words.

God wrote it. You believe it, and that settles it. And this, I believe, is what many of us have to do, to make all that we've been hearing in these past days a reality in our life.

So simple. Even a child, yes, even a child can grow in grace. Even a child can live a victorious life.

You say, oh, I thought only the victorious life was for adults who had studied the books, and entered into the deeper truths, and come to know the inner realities, and the inner veil, and all the rest. A simple child can live in victory. And I want to tell you, you can accuse me of both things.

Before I ever read a book on victory, before I ever went to a meeting on victory, before I ever heard anything about any second blessing, third blessing, victory, any of those things, I was living a victorious, fruitful life of joy and faith, seeing men went one to Christ, knowing blessing through prayer, and knowing reality. I was only 17. I'll never forget it.

I'll never forget it. And it's because I just believed it. I was just a child, but I believed it.

Whatever God said in the Bible, I believed it. And I just believed it, and believed it, and believed it, and as I believed it, I just lived day by day. And every day was a day of joy.

And I know some people think that this is some boast, they think this is some, something unusual, but I know that in my own testimony, as much as I'd like to be able to testify about some, some knocking out experience or weeks of being depressed, so that I can minister to those who have been depressed, I can't testify of that which hasn't happened. But I want to say that all these 12 years, every day has been a day of joy, a day of peace. All that's been said, has been Jesus.

But of course, we have provision for that, no? If we sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. And when I read that as a young boy, just 17 or 18, I, tremendous, I know what to do if I sin. I have a lawyer.

So whenever I sin, all these years, I never doubted that. Immediately went to the lawyer, the Lord Jesus, and I said, look, sin, I've done wrong, you forgive me. I immediately went away, knowing I was forgiven.

What is the secret in all that, the key, or whatever word you want to use? Faith. Some of us are making it too complicated. We're getting it all involved.

And we're getting deeper and deeper into bondage, when we need to do what Jesus said in Matthew 18, become as little children. God said it. You believe, and that's settled.

And I know, if you're ready to do that, you can know victory, and abundance, and joy, every day of your Christian life. Oh, there'll be battles. Oh, there'll be, there'll be defeats.

But always, back to the cross, always the joy of the Lord, always victory. Constantly climbing to know Him, and to make Him known. Let us not be deceived that we've all got to go through times of depression.

We've all got to get back, be backsliders for some period in our life. I mean, what kind of a testimony will we have? How will we be able to minister to other backsliders? We don't all backslide. And we don't all have sometimes a defeat.

And although I know that this is the normal situation with so many today, I don't believe it's necessary. And I pray that many of us tonight will say, Lord, I believe. I'm in Christ.

And that's all I need. That's all I need. Not Christ plus operation mobilization.

Not Christ plus good rousing hymns. Not Christ plus an evangelical exhortation every other week. Not Christ plus Christian service.

Not Christ plus satisfaction through doing the right job, or doing the right thing at the right time. Not Christ plus friends. Not Christ plus that particular girl.

Not Christ plus this particular country. Not Christ plus this or that. Just like it says here, that in all things, He might have the preeminence.

How do we have the victorious life? By simple, childlike faith. God said it. We believe.

That's it. Oh, Father, how we love to get things all muddled up. Somehow feeds our pride that we can then somehow try to unravel it all.

And yet, Lord, you've made it very clear in your Bible that this is the faith, this is the victory that overcomes the world, even our faith, even believing that Jesus will help us. That we are in Christ. That He is our all-sufficient Savior.

He's all we need all the time, despite all the different ways our feelings go, and all the problems of life, and the discouragements and the disappointments. We are complete in Christ. Father, tonight, may many of us, by faith, say, I believe, and settle the issue in our own hearts.

We ask in Jesus' name. Amen.

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