

06-04-2024 Lessons from the Berry Patch #9 Baby Elephant Walk

If you want to end war and stuff you've got to sing loud. Arlo Guthrie, Alice's Restaurant.

Now that we are properly outfitted, let's head over to the Berry Patch...

When you pile off into the Berry Patch, that is no time to be practicing your ballerina moves, it is time to do the "Baby Elephant Walk."



Stomp around, make the ground shake, rattle the berry vines. You've got to cause a ruckus to let those snakes know that you are large and in charge of the Berry Patch. Nobody likes to be snuck up on and snakes are no exception. Warning – this method does not seem to work with truck drivers.

We need to do the same thing in our spiritual lives. We know that satan is out there and if we want to win the war against him, we have to sing loud. If we are a little noisy in our thanks to God, our prayers, our praise, our crying out for mercy and all that stuff, satan may just go looking for easier prey.

Remember the story of the walls of Jericho? Remember the account of those walls tumbling down?

Joshua 6:

Now the gates of Jericho were tightly shut because the people were afraid of the Israelites. No one was allowed to go out or in. ² But the LORD said to Joshua, “I have given you Jericho, its king, and all its strong warriors. ³ You and your fighting men should march around the town once a day for six days. ⁴ Seven priests will walk ahead of the Ark, each carrying a ram’s horn. On the seventh day you are to march around the town seven times, with the priests blowing the horns. ⁵ When you hear the priests give one long blast on the rams’ horns, have all the people shout as loud as they can. Then the walls of the town will collapse, and the people can charge straight into the town.” ^{NLT}

The Israelites marched loudly around the city for six days making a terrible racket. They stomped their feet, they blew ram’s horns, they blew trumpets and they yelled at the top of their lungs! They were loud.

If we are half-hearted in our faith, we are an easy target. The book of James says it this way:

James 1:

⁵ If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and he will give it to you. He will not rebuke you for asking. ⁶ But when you ask him, be sure that your faith is in God alone. Do not waver, for a person with divided loyalty is as unsettled as a wave of the sea that is blown and tossed by the wind. ⁷ Such people should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. ⁸ Their loyalty is divided between God and the world, and they are unstable in everything they do. ^{NLT}

Lord help us to learn to live our faith out loud. We have so much to say to You and for You. We can be “conspicuously spiritual” without being “obnoxiously religious.”

Help us to sing loud today Lord.

In Jesus Name, Amen