



Breaking Through Glass Ceilings

2 Samuel 5:1-5

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2 Samuel 5:1-5 (NLT)

¹ Then all the tribes of Israel went to David at Hebron and told him, "We are your own flesh and blood. ² In the past, when Saul was our king, you were the one who really led the forces of Israel. And the LORD told you, 'You will be the shepherd of my people Israel. You will be Israel's leader.'" ³ So there at Hebron, King David made a covenant before the LORD with all the elders of Israel. And they anointed him king of Israel. ⁴ David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years in all. ⁵ He had reigned over Judah from Hebron for seven years and six months, and from Jerusalem he reigned over all Israel and Judah for thirty-three years.

Glass Ceiling - invisible barrier that prevents them from attaining the success they see others around them achieving.

Street Fighter vs. Prize Fighter

What's Success to You?

Define Success in Your Context

What's Success for PMJ?

1. Walking in Purpose
2. Blessed Family
3. Thriving Church
4. Financial Freedom
5. Producing Successful People

THE **EXISTENCE** OF GLASS CEILINGS **MUST BE ACCEPTED.**



John 7:52 (NLT)

⁵² They replied, "Are you from Galilee, too? Search the Scriptures and see for yourself—**no prophet ever comes from Galilee!**"

THE **ESSENCE** OF GLASS **CEILINGS** MUST BE **ACKNOWLEDGED**.

1. His Family - David's family seems to always be standing in his way.

2. His Leadership - The one man, Saul, who should have been leading David into battle, was also a critic when David stood up to serve the Lord, 1 Sam. 17:33.

1 Samuel 17:32-33 (NLT)

³² "Don't worry about this Philistine," David told Saul. "I'll go fight him!" ³³ "Don't be ridiculous!" Saul replied. "There's no way you can fight this Philistine and possibly win! You're only a boy, and he's been a man of war since his youth."

3. His Background - David was a descendant of a poor, shepherding family. He did not come from power, wealth, prominence or royalty. He was a nobody among the thousands of Israel.

4. His Youth and Inexperience - Over and over David was disrespected and underestimated by all those around him. (Note: This was the same experience that Timothy had years later - 1 Tim. 4:12.)

1 Timothy 4:12 (NLT)

¹² Don't let anyone think less of you because you are young. Be an example to all believers in what you say, in the way you live, in your love, your faith, and your purity.

1 Timothy 4:12 (MSG)

¹² And don't let anyone put you down because you're young. Teach believers with your life: by word, by demeanor, by love, by faith, by integrity.

I am an **Overcomer**



The Foundation of Overcoming is Your Belief System.

In God	His Son (Jesus)	Faith
In Self	Myself	Ability

1 John 5:4 (NASB)

⁴ For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has **overcome the world**—our faith.

1 John 5:1-5 (NLT)

¹ Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has become a child of God. And everyone who loves the Father loves his children, too. ² We know we love God's children if we love God and obey his commandments. ³ Loving God means keeping his commandments, and his commandments are not burdensome. ⁴ For every child of God defeats this evil world, and we achieve this victory through our faith. ⁵ And who can win this battle against the world? Only those who believe that Jesus is the Son of God.

-The person who is **born of God** overcomes the world. **(Baptism)**

-The victory that overcomes the world is our **faith. (Religious Belief System)**

-The person who overcomes the world is the person who **believes** that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

Overcomers are **followers of Christ** who successfully **resist** the power and temptation of the world's system.

Overcomers lose battles, but not the war.

Overcoming requires **complete dependence upon God** for **direction, purpose, fulfillment**, and **strength** to follow His plan for our lives.



The Greek word most often translated “**overcomer**” stems from the word **nike** which, according to *Strong's Concordance*, means “**to carry off the victory**. The verb implies a battle.”

The World is a **Battleground** not a **Playground**

Ephesians 6:10-18 (NLT)

¹⁰ A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹ Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. ¹² For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places. ¹³ Therefore, put on every piece of God's armor so you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle you will still be standing firm. ¹⁴ Stand your ground, putting on the belt of truth and the body armor of God's righteousness. ¹⁵ For shoes, put on the peace that comes from the Good News so that you will be fully prepared. ¹⁶ In addition to all of these, hold up the shield of faith to stop the fiery arrows of the devil. ¹⁷ Put on salvation as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. ¹⁸ Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.

Ephesians 6:10-20 (MSG)

¹⁰ And that about wraps it up. **God is strong, and he wants you strong.** ¹¹ So take everything the Master has set out for you, well-made weapons of the best materials. And put them to use so **you will be able to stand up to everything the Devil throws your way.** ¹² This is no afternoon athletic contest that we'll walk away from and forget about in a couple of hours. This is for keeps, a life-or-death fight to the finish against the Devil and all his angels. ¹³ Be prepared. You're up against far more than you can handle on your own. **Take all the help you can get, every weapon God has issued, so that when it's all over but the shouting you'll still be on your feet.** ¹⁴ Truth, righteousness, ¹⁵ peace, ¹⁶ faith, ¹⁷ and salvation are more than words. Learn how to apply them. You'll need them throughout your life. God's Word is an *indispensable* weapon. ¹⁸ In the same way, prayer is essential in this ongoing warfare. Pray hard and long. Pray for your brothers and sisters. Keep your eyes open. Keep each other's spirits up so that no one falls behind or drops out. ¹⁹ And don't forget to pray for me. Pray that I'll know what to say and have the courage to say it at the right time, telling the mystery to one and all, the Message that I, ²⁰ jailbird preacher that I am, am responsible for getting out.

Stand Firm



You'll never Overcome what you're facing until Overcoming sin is a priority

Overcoming is often equated with **Enduring**.

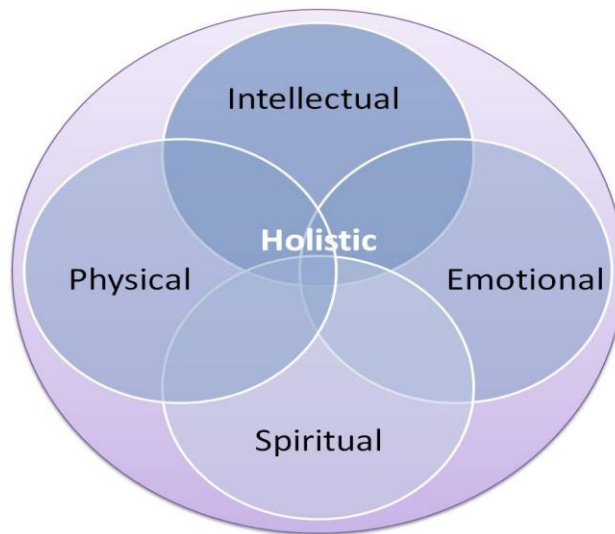
Jesus encouraged those who followed Him to “endure to the end”

Matthew 24:13 (NASB)

¹³ "But the one who endures to the end, he will be saved.

An **Overcomer Clings** to Christ.

Holistic Thinking



The term "**holistic thinking**" refers to a **big picture mentality** in which a person recognizes the interconnectedness of various elements that form larger systems, patterns and objects



Overcoming Sin gives you strength and power to face daily problems

THE **ENERGY** OF GLASS CEILINGS **MUST BE ATTACKED.**

1. Operate By Faith And Not By Sight

1 Samuel 17:4 (MSG)

⁴ A giant nearly ten feet tall stepped out from the Philistine line into the open, Goliath from Gath.

Whenever a **GIANT Steps Out** the real **KING/QUEEN Steps Up!**

God uses **Problems** as tools to **Promotion**

If you **run** from your **God Given Problem** you **forfeit** your **Promotion!**

Your **assignment** is always the problem God has designed you to solve for others.

You will only be remembered in life for two things: the **problems you solve** or the **ones you cause.**

Problems are **confirmation** that we are **being prepared** for something greater.

Problems are **indications** that we're **outside** of **his will** for us.

Romans 1:16-17 (NKJV)

¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.

¹⁷ For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "*The just shall live by faith.*"



Romans 1:16-17 (MSG)

¹⁶ It's news I'm most proud to proclaim, this extraordinary Message of God's powerful plan to rescue everyone who trusts him, starting with Jews and then right on to everyone else! ¹⁷ God's way of putting people right shows up in the acts of faith, confirming what Scripture has said all along: **"The person in right standing before God by trusting him really lives."**

Don't look at the size of the obstacle, look at the size of the God Who overcomes the obstacles!

2. Realize That God Did Not Call You Just To Let You Bang Your Head Against A Glass Ceiling

Hebrews 13:5-6 (NASB)

⁵ *Make sure that* your character is free from the love of money, being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, **"I WILL NEVER DESERT YOU, NOR WILL I EVER FORSAKE YOU,"** ⁶ so that we confidently say, "THE LORD IS MY HELPER, I WILL NOT BE AFRAID. WHAT WILL MAN DO TO ME?"

3. Glass Ceilings Can Be Shattered Only By The Power Of God

Ephesians 6:10-13 (NASB)

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. ¹¹ Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. ¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places. ¹³ Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm.

2 Corinthians 10:3-6 (NKJV)

³ For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. ⁴ For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, ⁵ casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, ⁶ and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled.