

WAGING WAR – Training Regimen

October 28-29, 2023

Hebrews 12:5-8 (NIV) – “And have you completely forgotten this word of encouragement that addresses you as a father addresses his son? It says, ‘My son, do not make light of the Lord’s discipline, and do not lose heart when He rebukes you, because the Lord disciplines the one He loves, and He chastens everyone He accepts as His son’. Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as His children. For what children are not disciplined by their father? If you are not disciplined – and everyone undergoes discipline – then you are not legitimate, not true sons and daughters at all”.

Hebrews 12:11 (NIV) - “No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it”.

“**discipline**” = Greek *paideuo* – “to train or educate”

1 Corinthians 9:25-27 (NIV) – “Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. Therefore, I do not run like someone running aimlessly; I do not fight like a boxer beating the air. No, I strike a blow to my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize”.

1 Timothy 4:6-10 (NIV) – “If you point these things out to the brothers and sisters, you will be a good minister of Christ Jesus, nourished on the truths of the faith and of the good teaching that you have followed. Have nothing to do with godless myths and old wives’ tales; rather, train yourself to be godly. For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come. This is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance. That is why we labor and strive, because we have put our hope in the living God, who is the Savior of all people, and especially of those who believe”.

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“The Bible teaches, and our own experience testifies, that we live in the dark days of hope between July 2 and July 10. We’ve been found, but not yet fully rescued. Our salvation process has undoubtedly begun, and we have great hope, but our captivity, our days of darkness, are far from over”
– **Pete Greig, comparing the Christian life to the rescue of the Thai soccer team from Tham Luang Nang Non cave**

Romans 8:22-25 (NIV) – “We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently”.

Romans 8:25 (NKJV) - “But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with perseverance”.

Mark 9:21-24 (NIV) – Jesus asked the boy’s father, “How long has he been like this?” “From childhood”, he answered. “It has often thrown him into fire or water to kill him. But if you can do anything, take pity on us and help us”. “If you can’?” said Jesus. “Everything is possible for one who believes”. Immediately the boy’s father exclaimed, “I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!”

Mark 9:28-29 (NKJV) – And when He had come into the house, His disciples asked Him privately, “Why could we not cast it out?” So He said to them, “This kind can come out by nothing but prayer and fasting”.

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“Probably the number one reason why prayer malfunctions in the hands of believers is that we try to turn a wartime walkie-talkie into a domestic intercom. Until you believe that life is war, you cannot know what prayer is for” – *John Piper*

Acts 12:5-7 (NIV) – “So Peter was kept in prison, but the church was earnestly praying to God for him. The night before Herod was to bring him to trial, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries stood guard at the entrance. Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him up. “Quick, get up!” he said, and the chains fell off Peter’s wrists”.

Luke 9:12-13 (NIV) – Late in the afternoon, the Twelve came to Him and said, “Send the crowd away so they can go to the surrounding villages and countryside and find food and lodging, because we are in a remote place here”. He replied, “You give them something to eat”. They answered, “We have only five loaves of bread and two fish – unless we go and buy food for all this crowd”.