

Do you **fight** for life or **forfeit** life?

...I have come in order that you might have life--life in all its fullness. John 10:10 (GNT)

God is strong, and he wants you strong. 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. This is no weekend war 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. Ephesians 6:10-12 (MSG)

What is the fatigue and discouragement **<u>pulling me</u>** away from, or **<u>tempting me</u>** to give up on?

We stop fighting when:

We stop **caring** about doing the **right** thing.

So let's not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up. Galatians 6:9 (NLT)

When we give up the fight:

- We accept something different from **God's plan**.
- We accept where we are as **good enough**.
- \dots I strive toward the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. Philippians 3:14 (NET)
- We accept <u>defeat</u>.

Elijah was afraid and ran for his life. When he came to Judah, he left his servant there, while he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness. He came to a broom bush, sat down under it and prayed that he might die. "I have had enough, Lord," he said. "Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors." 1 Kings 19:3-5

Every fighter:

• Every fighter has to deal with failure.

"Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors." 1 Kings 19:5

Failing in life teaches us:

Our failures don't disqualify us.

• Every fighter has to deal with fatigue.

He came to a broom bush, sat down under it and prayed that he might die. "I have had enough, Lord," 1 Kings 19:4

Our fatigue does not **define** us.

...my strength is made perfect in weakness. 2 Corinthians 12:9 (KJV)

"My power is strongest when you are weak." So if Christ keeps giving me his power, I will gladly brag about how weak I am. 2 Corinthians 12:9 (CEV)

• Every fighter has to move **forward**.

Then he lay down and slept under the broom tree. But as he was sleeping, an angel touched him and told him, "Get up and eat!" He looked around and there beside his head was some bread baked on hot stones and a jar of water! So he ate and drank and lay down again. 1 Kings 19:5-6 (NLT)

He looked around and there beside his head was some bread baked on hot stones and a jar of water! 1 Kings 19:6 (NLT)

Strength for the fight:

- Sometimes the strength we need for the spiritual fight is in taking care of our physical needs.
- Strength we need for the spiritual fight is not a **quick fix**. Strengthened by that food, he traveled forty days and forty nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of God. 1 Kings 19:8 (NIV)
- God called Elijah to a personal encounter.

Go out and stand before me on the mountain," the Lord told him. And as Elijah stood there the Lord passed by, and a mighty windstorm hit the mountain; it was such a terrible blast that the rocks were torn loose, but the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind, there was an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. And after the earthquake, there was a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire, there was the sound of a gentle whisper. 1 Kings 19:11-12 (TLB)

The reason God whispers is because He is **close**.

You have armed me with strength for the battle.. Psalm 18:39 (NLT)

But those who wait upon God get fresh strength. They spread their wings and soar like eagles, They run and don't get tired, they walk and don't lag behind. Isaiah 40:31 (MSG) But the people who trust the Lord will become strong again. Isaiah 40:31(NCV)

For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. Romans 5:6



TO CREATIVELY LOVE AND LEAD PEOPLE IN A GROWING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

Have Questions? Text them to: (559)-464-5754

Questions that can be used in Connection Groups:

These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Explain why?

 Have you ever had to dig deep and fight for something that was really important? Explain.
- Have you ever felt like throwing in the towel on your spiritual life? How did you make it it through that season?
- Why do some forfeit the life that God has for them?
- Do you think stop fighting when we stop caring? What does that mean to you? What are some other signs that we've stopped fighting for the life God has for us?
- Talk through the points under the sub-heading "When we give up the fight:"
- How do you handle failure? Do you tend to wrestle with the feeling that your failures disqualify you?
- · How do you handle fatigue? Do you tend to wrestle with the feeling that your fatigue defines you?
- Talk through the points under the sub-heading "Strength for the fight".
- What are some ways we can encounter God for the strength we need?

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Today's Talk..



"DIGGING DEEP"