



# EUROCLYDON

Sustaining faith through life's storms



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## **SUSTAINING FAITH THROUGH LIFE'S STORMS**

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Primary Verses: *Mark 7:24-27*

### **THE ROCK VS THE SAND**

**Q:** Why does the Foundation Matter?

**Because there will Always be Storms!**

- The Bible is a “anything is possible” manual.
- It is also a “anything can happen” manual.
- In its pages you will find that the miraculous and the mayhem intermingle.

**STORMS I AM FACING RIGHT NOW**

## MINISTRY STORMS

Model: The Apostle Paul

Focus: Euroclydon

***"But not long after, a tempestuous head wind arose, called Euroclydon. So when the ship was caught, and could not head into the wind, we let her drive." Acts 27:14-15 NKJV***

***"They LOST ALL CONTROL..." Vs. 15 MSG***

### THE CHAOS WILL NEVER FIX ITSELF

neither can you count on others to do it for you.

### ACTION STEPS:

1. Acknowledge that God is in control of even the most out-of-control situations.
2. Take Charge whenever and wherever you can.
3. Take care of yourself.
4. Lighten your load.
5. Get ready to do your part.

### THINGS THAT ARE OUT OF CONTROL

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## **FAITH STORMS**

Model: Joshua and Caleb, Job

Focus: Giants

Joshua and Caleb:

***But the men who had gone up with him said, "We can't attack those people; they are stronger than we are." And they spread among the Israelites a bad report about the land they had explored. They said, "The land we explored devours those living in it. All the people we saw there are of great size. We saw the Nephilim there (the descendants of Anak come from the Nephilim). We seemed like grasshoppers in our own eyes, and we looked the same to them." Numbers 13:31-33***

## **12 Spies! 10 Doubters! 2 Believers!**

Your future successes cannot be gauged solely on observable circumstances.

## **LESSONS LEARNED FROM FAILURE TO ENTER THE PROMISE:**

### **1. Your promise from God will likely require giant removal.**

A "giant" is:

1. anything that distracts us from our focus on God.
2. anything that detours us from our service for God. And
3. anything that drains us of our driving passion for God.

## 2. Your fulfilled promises must focus on God's power!

*"...if the LORD is pleased with us, he will bring us safely into that land and give it to us. It is a rich land flowing with milk and honey." Numbers 14:8 NLT*

## STOP LOOKING AT YOUR GIANTS!

Job:

Job stepped into the octagon against multiple giants ... And it was brutal! Satan was relentless. The outcome was agonizing. Job lost it all ... EXCEPT HIS FAITH! His faith survived!

The Apostle James was impressed. He wrote: ***"You have heard of Job's perseverance and have seen what the Lord finally brought about. The Lord is full of compassion and mercy."* James 5:11 NIV**

How did Job survive? He knew who God was. Victory depends on our view of God.

THE GIANTS I NEED TO SLAY

## **RELATIONAL STORMS**

Model: King David

Focus: Elah Vs Ziklag

### **10.8**

The distance between Elah and Ziklag. The miles are miniscule, the difference, however, between Elah and Ziklag is staggering!

#### **Elah**

- The valley where David defeated the giant Goliath.
- He is dripping with confidence. Standing tall. Bold. Defiant. Brave. Faith filled.
- Fellow soldiers carry him off the field of battle on their shoulders.
- David captured the attention of a nation. Kings' daughter. Wealth. Status.
- Elah is a place of victory. A conquerors playground. Great vibes. Champions.

#### **Ziklag**

- The stronghold where David and fellow warriors lost everything.
- He is seized with despair. Bowing low. Confused. Stressed. Faithless.
- Fellow soldiers start talking about killing him.
- David's family was captured, along with all his wealth. Status is all time low.
- Ziklag is a place of defeat. A victim's prison. Negative vibes. Losers.



This is the same man. Same God. Very different reality. In just 10.8 miles David went from **emboldened to discouraged**.

- **Discouragement** is what brings a mighty man to acting like a weak man.
- **Discouraged** means your courage ran before your fight was over.
- **Discouraged** means I had it, but I lost it.
- It means I'm tired of you collapsing on me and I need to collapse on you.

The relational storm David encountered was catastrophic. The same soldiers that carried him off the battlefield in Elah are the same soldiers that are prepared to stone him in Ziklag. It is the ultimate betrayal.

So ... David ***"encouraged himself in the Lord."*** **1 Samuel 30:6**

### **ACTION STEPS:**

1. *Never give up if you know you're right.*
2. *Don't let the odds discourage you – God's bigger than all of them.*
3. *Never let anyone intimidate you or deter you from your goals.*
4. *Remember, every winner has dealt with defeat and adversity.*
5. **FIGHT BACK!**

### **RELATIONSHIPS THAT NEED MENDING**

## LEADERSHIP STORMS

Model: Moses

Focus: Opposition




Moses successfully led God's people out of Egyptian captivity. Turns out that was the easy part! The transition from captivity to freedom required a major shift.

- A cultural shift was essential, but the Mosaic congregation failed to buy in.
- Through the course of this story Moses learned valuable leadership lessons.

## LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE EXODUS:

### 1. Popularity has a Shelf Life.

Moses had it going on! He was popular ... and then his ratings went down.

- Egyptian Deliverance ... Popularity was way up here! Trapped at Sea ... 
- The Red Sea divided ... Popularity was way up here! No water ... 
- Water flows from rock ... Way up here! People are hungry ... 

The Bible says...

***4 The rabble with them began to crave other food, and again the Israelites began wailing and said, 5 "If only we had meat to eat! We remember the fish we ate in Egypt at no cost — also the cucumbers, melons, leeks, onions and garlic. 6 But now we have lost our appetite; we never see anything but this manna!" Numbers 11:4-6***



## 2. The One-Man Show has Limits!

***"I cannot carry all these people by myself; the burden is too heavy for me." Vs 14***

*"I can't do this by myself—it's too much, all these people." MSG*

Great teams have contagious optimism – it starts with the leader.

- Share your optimism, belief and faith with your team.
- Show them the way forward – transfer your belief to them. Feed them positivity. Speak life to them.
- Believe in them when they don't believe in themselves.

## 3. The Legacy Leader has Tenacity.

Moses became frustrated with the attitude of the people he was leading. So he uttered a very powerful prayer in **verse 15** ...

***"Why are you doing this to me? Please kill me right now; it will be a kindness! Let me out of this impossible situation! I've seen enough; I've had enough. Let me out of here." Vs 15 Multiple***

God has a knack for doing the impossible!

CHALLENGES THAT MUST BE ADDRESSED

## Final Thoughts...

The Bible is an “anything can happen” manual! From cover to cover it screams all things are POSSIBLE!

- It is physically impossible to birth a child at 90 ... Sarah can testify, it's possible!
- There's no way a man outrun a chariot ... Elijah can testify, it's possible!
- You cannot be swallowed by a whale and live ... Jonah can testify, it's possible!
- It's foolish to believe you can walk on water ... Peter can testify, it's possible!
- You can't recover from four days in the grave ... Lazarus can testify, it's possible!

Let me remind you that God has called you, anointed you, positioned you, and ordained you to **DO SOMETHING** in and for the kingdom.

- You not only have potential ... you have kingdom potential!
- Don't let anyone underestimate you. And do not sell yourself short.
- Even when something screams impossible ... with God's help it's doable!

SO ... Launch out into the deep on nothing more than the Word of God. Attempt what they say can't be done.

Here's what I like about **1 Chronicles 28:20** ... We get to listen in as the king of a prevailing nation talks to his son. There's some moxie in his delivery ...

***“...Be strong man. Have courage, AND DO IT; don't be afraid. The Lord God—my God—will be with you...”***

## PERSONAL PRAYER GUIDE

From pages 1-8, transfer the information you wrote in each box. Believe that God will help you to RECOVER ALL through this daily prayer template.

1. It is my prayer that God will deliver me from **all storms** in Jesus' name. I call them out by name...
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. I take charge of every **out-of-control situation** in Jesus' name. I call them out by name...
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. The **giants** that have **defied my faith** will be conquered in Jesus' name. I call them out by name...
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. I ask for healing from the **hurt I have suffered** from every **broken relationship** in Jesus' name. I ask God to help me to forgive...
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. I ask for clarity and direction with the **various challenges** I am facing in my **life**, my **home**, my **church**, my **relationships**, and my **ministry**. I call them out by name...