

## **WHAT TO DO YOU DO WHEN YOU FACE OBSTACLES By Jarrod Davidoff July 19, 2020**

Let's be real. Life is not always perfect. We live in a fallen world with fallen people and as a result you are going to have many challenges in life. The sooner that you realise that the happier you will be.

It's not like you now sort all your issues out and then life is perfect-THERE WILL ALWAYS BE CHALLENGES.

Even when you give your life to Jesus there will be challenges to overcome, but the difference now is that you have the Lord on your side to overcome those challenges.

The bible says we are more than conquerors through Christ.

### **BOXING ANALOGY**

Heavyweight champ trains etc. Wins \$50 million. Goes home and gives the check to his wife. He's a conqueror, she's more than a conqueror.

Jesus fought the battle for our souls and won.

Now as the champ you're gonna have to defend your belt. People and demons will come against you BUT YOU WIN.

I would like to give you some advice about what to do when there are obstacles in your way.

### **1) BE AWARE OF AREAS OF ATTACK**

It's essential to note that challenges come our way from different sources.

## **BAD DECISIONS MADE**

Many people are where they are because of bad decisions they have made in life. 15 years ago, 4 years, last month-yet made BAD DECISIONS

Sometimes your worst enemy is you. Many people make rash decisions because they don't know the Word and live in the flesh. I'm a free man. No one can tell me what to do. I live how I want to live. I'm the master of my ship.

Emotional

Rash

Pressured

Guess

Try

Do you know what the anthem of hell is? I did it my way.

A bad decision is bad when acted on an opportunity.

Here you are faced with 2 options:

You can listen and yield to the flesh or  
Rebuke and reject the flesh decision

**Galatians 5:16** I say then: **Walk in the Spirit**, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. 17 For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish.

When you are busy doing the do's, YOU DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THE DON'TS

**19** Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, **20** idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, **21** envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told *you* in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

**22** But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, **23** gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. **24** And those *who are* Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. **25** If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. **26** Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

So the bible teaches us that if we walk in the flesh we will make bad decisions that will lead to consequences.

So let's be practical. Let's look at hatred. Hate is unforgiveness that has festered and grown. I was bullied as a teenager for about 2 years at school. As a result I hated the boys that bullied me.

When I got saved at age 20 the love of Jesus came into my heart. When I started to study God's word it began to impact me. My mind began to be renewed.

I thought back often at what those boys did to me, but now I had an opportunity to respond.

So when that feeling of pain, anguish, embarrassment, revenge and unforgiveness came and it did and sometimes still may I NEED TO RESPOND

**YOU RESPOND WITH THE WORD:**

Lord I forgive them as you forgave me, I release them into your hands. I pray that they get saved in Jesus name.

**Galatians 6:7** Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. **8** For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life. **9** And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart. **10** Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith.

Something that also leads to obstacles been formed around you that is self induced is:

**BAD CONFESSIONS MADE**

**Proverbs 18:21** Death and life *are* in the power of the tongue  
(SPEECH/CONFESSION), And those who love it will eat its fruit.

**James 3:8** But no man can tame the tongue. *It is* an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. **9** With it we bless our God and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the similitude of God. **10 Out of the same mouth proceed blessing and cursing.** My brethren, these things ought not to be so.

We read whatever you decree will come to pass so you are speaking death over yourself and OPENING THE DOOR.

I could just kill him

Say one more word and you gonna get it

I'm going crazy

Don't use human words or ideologies, speak the word:

I believe I receive **vs** I hope so

I hope I get healed **vs** Im healed in Jesus name

I hope I'm doing the right thing **vs** Thank you Lord that my steps are ordered by you

### **HUMAN OPPOSITION**

**DISTRACT**

**DERAIL**

## DESTROY

We live in a world of people that are not perfect. Some are more flawed than others. Sometimes people act unbecoming to you. They may say hurtful things and do hurtful things to you. Sometimes it's knowingly and sometimes unknowingly.

Don't let that surprise you. It's not that it won't come, yet rather how you respond when it does come.

As a result your self esteem may be diminished and your identity in Christ broken.

We take offense when people treat us badly.

**1 Peter 2:23** who, when He (JESUS) was reviled, **did not** revile in return; when He suffered, **He did not threaten**, (Here Jesus had opportunity to curse them and tell them they will go to hell and burn for it. Yet He didn't do that. SO WHAT DID HE DO?) but committed *Himself* to Him who judges righteously;

He could have called all the angels of heaven to destroy them, OR HE Himself could have, but didnt

**2 Timothy 2:24** And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient, **25** in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, **26** and *that* they may come to their senses *and escape* the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to *do* his will.

**YOU WILL RECEIVE OPPOSITION TO YOUR MISSION**

As you step out to serve the Lord and share the gospel and lead people to Jesus the devil is not going to like that.

**Matthew 5:11** Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. **12** Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great *is* your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Jews for Jesus to Cape Town. Fired from a Jewish school for being their tennis coach. The Principal's cousin wrote the labor laws. The glory of God filled that car as I went my way rejoicing.

What will rejoicing do? It will give you strength.

**Nehemiah 8:10** ...Do not sorrow, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.”

### **COMPETITION**

“Golf is just an avenue for Jesus to use me to reach as many people as I can.”  
Bubba Watson

Being a Christian means accepting Christ as your savior, your God. That's why you are called a 'Christian.' If you remove Christ, there's only 'ian' and that means 'I am nothing.' Manny Pacquiao

**1 Corinthians 9:25-27** All athletes are disciplined in their training. They do it to win a prize that will fade away, but we do it for an eternal prize. So I run

with purpose in every step. I am not just shadowboxing. I discipline my body like an athlete, training it to do what it should. Otherwise, I fear that after preaching to others I myself might be disqualified.

As a Christian athlete you will compete against other athletes yet if you train hard, eat well, have good mental strength, are strong willed and God gifted, then He will use you.

### **SPIRITUAL OPPOSITION**

Satan and his demons operate in the spiritual realm which manifests into the natural realm.

Have you ever been sad, depressed, under pressure, depressed, under attack? That's because the enemy is trying to discourage you.

### **SO THIS IS WHAT YOU DO:**

**James 4:7** Therefore submit to God. **(STEP ONE-Lord I come under your kingdom rule and reign. I submit to your Word. May your perfect will be done in my life)** Resist (STEP 2- SATAN I COME AGAINST YOU IN THE NAME OF JESUS.) the devil and he will flee from you. **8** Draw near to God (STEP 3 POSITION YOURSELF) and He will draw near to you. Cleanse *your* hands, *you* sinners; and purify *your* hearts, *you* double-minded.

**Jude 1:9** Yet Michael the archangel, in contending with the devil, when he disputed about the body of Moses, dared not bring against him a reviling accusation, but said, "The Lord rebuke you!"

## **2) FIGHT**



**1 Timothy 6:12** Fight ( We in a fight. You got to know in a fight you can get punched, you can get knocked out, so you need TO train. Train hard-win easy. We are in training for reigning. You in a fight yet you have Jesus in your corner) the good fight (enjoy it, it's a good fight because unless you are totally negligent, you cannot lose) of faith (that's the fight-believing what God says and doing what He says to do), lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and **have confessed the good confession** in the presence of many witnesses.

The greatest defense is a strong offense. God's weapon is declaration. When you start declaring God's word over a situation you have heavens attention and resources are made available.

### **3) DECREE**

**Job 22:28** You will also declare a thing, (*from God's word or a promise he has made to you*)And it will be **established** for you;So light will shine on your ways.

Every attack launched against you the devil has designed to take you out of faith. You see faith pleases God and those that come to God must believe that He is and that He is a REWARDER of those that diligently seek Him.

So if the enemy can get you out of faith, He gets you out of favor with the Lord. And when you are not in favor with the Lord, the challenges that come your way will be greatly challenging to overcome.

When we consider our lives it's obvious to note that all of us go through challenges at times or all the times. The highest trees get the most wind.