

FRONTLINE

Publication Theme

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THE WARRIOR COMMISSION

~ DECISIONS THAT DEFINE US ~

We have decided that we are living an adventure with God, embracing times of adversity as opportunities for our growth and seeing the Goodness of God in the land of the living.

SEEING GOD'S GOODNESS

By Christine Casten

Executive Director of TWC

Few people want to embrace times of adversity. It seems counter intuitive. Yet, times of adversity open us to see the goodness of God in our lives. We take the Warrior stance of actively looking for how God is moving to turn the adversity into His good. It's in His goodness we find acceleration, confidence, strength, and wonder.

God walks with us at all times. Pre-warrior mindsets tend to take Him for granted in the good times and hope He will rescue us when things get tough. For us Warriors, things change when we start to look for how He is moving and what He is doing in the midst of those adverse moments. Our intentionality taps into God's wisdom and reminds us of the growth that comes when the chips are down, or our sails are torn.

As a Warrior EPIC Nation, we are exploring how seeing God's Goodness continues to raise us up. As we rise, others will, too. We just can't keep silent or withhold our experiences about the great God we serve!

This Frontline contains deeper truths and training to empower you to step into the goodness of God as a growth opportunity. Each voice shared here takes our training a little further. Whether it is a chance to recognize groanings (based on our August Transitions and Overcoming Mindsets call) or cover the adventures into God's goodness that each day brings, we firmly believe we will discover the Goodness of God in the land of the living – in our today and tomorrow.

How are you seeing God's Goodness in the land of the living?

LIVING IN THE KINGDOM

BY KATHY BROWN

When I close my eyes and picture the Kingdom of God, I get a glorious picture of a vast landscape filled with rolling hills that lead up to majestic, high mountain ranges. Beautiful in richness of color and possibilities, so much to discover walking with our God in this land.

All of us know that life with the Holy Spirit is an adventure. From our first “Yes” to God when we received the gospel of Jesus Christ, His love and abiding presence into our hearts. We live the rest of our lifetime discovering the amazing wonders of God in our transformational process.

In the Warrior Commission we are an incredible tribe of fellow adventurers who hunger and thirst for more of Jesus in our lives. We are together in the process of being transformed into His image. We climb higher in His presence where God shows up with an invitation for us to grow into a new upgrade that comes through pursuing Him in the challenges. God offers to us in the challenge an exchange. He gives us beauty in exchange for our dust and ashes.

In times of mourning and difficulty He offers us His joy that then becomes our strength. As we grow in Him, we discover that true richness and abundance in life are held in the invitation God gives to us in the middle of adversity. It is on the battlefield that we learn trust, peace, joy, love, and the kindness of God. When the enemy wants to throw intimidation, fear, insecurities, doubts, anxiety at us, God has an invitation for us that brings us true life riches in Him.

On the battlefield is where we learn how to step back into His presence and rest in Him. It is a beautiful thing to hear the laughter of God as the war rages around us. We get to see the majesty of God when it seems that darkness is overtaking the land. As we worship God on the battlefield, we know that our God IS bigger, mightier, and that **only He is worthy to be praised!** It is in the intimacy of the secret place with God that rest becomes our weapon! This is where the strategy of the enemy is exposed, and we see who our God is and what He is doing instead. Kingdom living is all about adventure with God. This is the way I choose to live, seeing the goodness of God in the land of the living.

My fellow believers, when it seems as though you are facing nothing but difficulties, see it as an invaluable opportunity to experience the greatest joy that you can! For you know that when your faith is tested it stirs up power within you to endure all things. And then as your endurance grows even stronger it will release perfection into every part of your being until there is nothing missing and nothing lacking.

James 1:2-4 (TPT)

LIVING THE ADVENTURE

BY BYRON EASTERLING

Do we live adventures in life no matter if we've asked for them or not? This was the beginning of my thoughts as I read and prayed through this *Decision that Defines Us*. From this, it then naturally categorized itself into three parts.

1. Living an adventure with God
2. Embracing times of adversity as opportunities for growth
3. Seeing the goodness of God in the land of the living

As I pondered these phrases, they condensed into three powerful and very interactive words, living – embracing – seeing. These three words give breath to what follows. They are foundational words that move each of the three phrases forward, like the lead engine on a train that pulls the remaining cars. I wanted to take a few lines on a page to express my heart behind these three words and why they bring hope to us as Warriors of the throne.

Living *is* the adventure. The moment we wake each day, there is a fresh expectation available to us for new adventures. It's built into God's kingdom, and it is also a promise He has given us. There are new mercies, a new look, and new life available. Living is at the core of our being. Living is what springs us forward into all that the Father has purposed for us. Living is the adventure. That seems so simple, but we can easily forget the simple things of life.

The word *embracing* reflects intimacy from heaven poured into our very being and from the individuals in our lives who embrace us with open arms. Knowing that our heavenly Father's embrace is always there and never diminishes in its intensity provides the loving atmosphere to step into adversity. We may be concerned about the unknown, but we can be assured of an amazing outcome because we are pledged to his embrace. This makes the adventure much less bewildering and creates great expectations for our future.

Last, but surely not least, is the word *seeing*. I often associate seeing with a revelation or seeing into the heart of God. Maybe a meme might say, "To See Him is to Know Him." This, of course, is a limited expression of knowing Him. Most memes are. Seeing also has a very personal aspect. We each uniquely see in the natural and the spiritual. We look at life from different angles. We might call these "facets of seeing". You see one facet, and I see another. The joy of seeing different angles or facets is joining together to create the whole picture. By putting our pieces together, we see a greater revelation of his goodness to us. We can then enjoy and encounter more of our Father. We grow. We experience Him, which allows us to give away even more.

We have decided that we are living an adventure with God, embracing times of adversity as opportunities for our growth and seeing the Goodness of God in the Land of the Living. How is Dad opening the heavens for you to live the adventure, to be embraced now, and see more of his goodness? Here's to you, Warrior of the throne!

WEBSITE AND TRAINING HIGHLIGHTS

Connection Ambassadors

We have a team of Warriors whose heart is focused on connection and the value of each individual warrior. Connection Ambassadors (CAs) have completed the Connection Ambassadors Specialty Training that happens in February each calendar year. Each one has a desire to support TWC members and give you an opportunity to practice your Kingdom voice.

The emails that CA's send are an invitation and an opportunity. You are encouraged to read the email because they are designed to bring you a blessing. The Lord may have something for you in it. Replying to a CA email is your choice. If you have something to say, this is a safe opportunity. The questions included with the emails they send give you an opportunity to practice your voice and share what God is putting on your heart and doing in your life.

These emails are not form letters but are crafted by each individual Ambassador as Holy Spirit directs. The Team gets together to decide on the focus of the Email round and what questions, pictures, or scriptures the Lord wants to release into the TWC Community. Then each Ambassador puts together an email including the focus Holy Spirit helped them develop.

God has something special for you in these emails, whether they start a conversation between you and that CA, or they simply remind you that you have value and a voice.

Foundations Stage 1 Activation

Foundations Stage 1 has been updated recently. The second month is now titled Kingdom Mindsets. An interactive activation has been created to support you on your journey with God. Holy Spirit is the best Sherpa ever for the mountain climb, and Jesus is there with all the provision you need.

If you would like to experience this activation you can find the Video Introduction and the Video Activation on the Website under the Training tab, Training Modules, then Foundations, Stages 1-2 – New Members. Go to the bottom of the page to the last question where you will find links to the Introduction and the Activation. If you would like a copy of the training for the updated Stage 1, you may email the coaches at TWC.WarriorEpic@gmail.com and request a copy.

COACHES' CORNER

BY STACEY BEEBE

Obstacles as Opportunities for Goodness

This summer I had the opportunity to go hiking by myself in North Carolina. As I would get further away from my “home base”, an excited anxiety arose in my spirit as the walk turned into an adventure. The further I hiked the trail it became more narrow, the climb steeper, the obstacles more frequent, and the views more majestic. Despite the increased difficulty, I was driven forward by the excitement and anticipation of what I might find around the next bend. I didn't want to turn back because I didn't want to miss anything.

This is the adventure we are on with God. We can be assured that “these present sufferings are not worth comparing with the Glory that will be revealed in us.” (Rom. 8:18). We KNOW that God is GOOD and that in every circumstance we face, He has majestic, amazing, awe-inspiring GOOD for us to experience. (Rom. 8:28)

Sometimes, like on a beautiful hike, that GOOD is easier to believe in. Sometimes, like in the midst of illness or loss, we learn to be like David and become “*resolved* to see the Goodness of God in the land of the living.” (Psalm 27:13)

In 2015 I became ill. I realized fairly quickly that this was going to be a long and difficult journey. As I faced what would become years of needing to be carried to the bathroom, bathed, picked up off the floor, etc. I asked God what His promise was for me in this circumstance. His response was “at the end of this, you will be unrecognizable to yourself.” In the coming months I held onto this vague promise through pain and anxiety with white knuckles. Eventually His peace settled into my spirit and I learned to rest in this promise. It was a very long journey, but I can joyfully say that He fulfilled His promise. My peace, joy, and trust in God is atmospheres above where I was. I live in a freedom, and with a sense of purpose, that I hadn't imagined possible - and my identity in Him has flourished! None of these transformations would have been possible without that season of adversity.

What promise does God have for you in your current season? What Goodness does He have in store for you around the next corner of your journey?

Hang on...

Keep going...

**God's promise is that the glorious
views ahead will be more than
worth it!**

GROANINGS – CREATION’S, MINE, AND HOLY SPIRIT’S

BY DAVID THOMAS

What groanings of creation is God bringing to my attention during this time of transition into the new era?

During the August Overcoming Mindsets and Transitions call Christine Casten described in various ways what this new era we are in/moving into looks like. The idea stood out to me that “all creation (around us) is groaning as in the pains of childbirth, eagerly anticipating the revealing of the children of God,” - those people who can press in and bring to birth new life. We have a unique authority in this new era, as God’s sons and daughters, to partner with him in bringing his transformation into broken, hurting, “groaning” situations around us.

Romans 8:18-27 describes three “groanings.” As well as creation’s groaning, we ourselves groan inwardly for our own transformation, and Holy Spirit intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. This groaning is like birthing labor. I’ve experienced (as much as a husband can) the birth of our four kids, coaching and serving my Debby through all the stages of delivery. This kind of intercession is intense!

Elijah and God worked together to birth the rain after more than three years of drought. The land was parched, and groaning held back by the sins of a whole nation which had turned away from God and was following the baals. God promised rain, and Elijah prayed squatting down with his head between his legs as in childbirth, groaning with God to release the rain. When he thought, “That should just about do it,” he sent his servant to see if a cloud had appeared in the sky. When no cloud was seen he went back to his squatting/birthing prayer. Again, he sent his servant to see if he had broken through and if the rain was coming, and still no cloud appeared. He didn’t pray just once, or twice, but seven times until the rain poured down! He persevered, partnering with God to bring forth the promised rain.

Sometimes our groaning means being in the right place at the right time and intervening through prayer to avert danger or solve a difficult problem.

Holy Spirit, brought to mind, an experience where I was in the right place at the right time to connect with a situation that needed breakthrough. It was a time of urgency and danger that required groaning. We were driving home to Kigali from Musanze in Rwanda. I was driving a Toyota Hilux pickup full of band instruments following a bus filled with our high school band students. It was pouring rain and the bus came upon a landslide blocking the two-lane highway. The bus driver tried to pass the landslide on the outside shoulder of the road, but his outside tires slipped off and he bogged down in the mud, tipping dangerously toward the cliff below. We were able to quickly get the students off the bus. Cars and trucks backed up behind us and beyond us on the other side of the slide. I tried to convince a truck driver ahead to tow the bus forward (offering my heavy-duty tow cable), but I couldn’t convince him. The police soon showed up, as well as the local military commander, and soon we were surrounded by truckers, other drivers, and young men milling around. It was dark, wet, and chaotic with various groups of people, conversations and many ideas being thrown around.

I was in the right place at the right time, and I believed I could help solve this problem. I asked Holy Spirit for grace and favor and then approached the military commander and the leading police officer. They were surprised that this white foreigner spoke Kinyarwanda! By this time there were over 50 cars behind us and 50 cars up the road beyond us. It continued raining, and the landslide was active with trees coming off the cliff above onto the road. Surprisingly, they agreed to let me try my plan.

I attached my cable to the back corner of the bus and in tandem with the bus driver slowly backing up and I pulling in low range four-wheel drive, we were able to break the bus free from the mud. I had to reposition my pickup three times, but with the third time we were able to get the bus's back wheels up onto the pavement. With the bus out of the way, I then wrapped my cable around the roots of a large tree and pulled it off the road with my pickup. In the meantime, the military leader gathered a bunch of young men to shovel mud off the shoulder. We were then able to drive the bus on the shoulder past the slide, reload all the students and continue on to Kigali. I followed right behind. Hours later the students' parents were grateful to have them safely home.

This was a moment of specific need (the earth was groaning) where God put me in the right place at the right time, with a love for mud, stuck vehicles, four-wheel drive problem solving, language and cultural insight, courage, creativity, and a lot of Holy Spirit fun. I still marvel at what He and I accomplished that night.

I'm learning from my story that I connect with God's heart for the groaning of creation around me from a deep place of knowing I am Papa's beloved son, delight of his eyes. This was a Zephaniah 3:17 moment with Holy Spirit dancing, shouting, and rejoicing over me, and with me.

Intercession is connecting with God's heart for a situation, place, or person. It is also breaking the hold of the enemy and denying him access to this person or situation. It is partnering with God to bring new life where death and destruction reigned.

As we are moving into this new era, what are the groanings of creation you are hearing around you? As his cherished child, where is Papa wanting to groan and birth new life with you?

As we are rooted in God's love for us, as we abide in his rest, what groanings of the fallen world around us is he wanting to share with us, and bring to transformation through us?

How do we partner with God in addressing creation's groanings around us from a place of complete rest and peace? How do we pursue God's assignments without them becoming burdensome and heavy to manage?

**The LORD your God is with you,
the Mighty Warrior who saves.
Zephaniah 3:17**

FIRESTARTERS

Look for these questions on the Forum. They come from the articles found within this Frontline publication and are here to generate more conversation with our TWC Tribe. As you read Frontline, look at these questions and get ready to answer them over the next few weeks in the Warrior Chat group. See you there!

1. How are you seeing God's Goodness in the land of the living?
2. What Goodness does He have in store for you around the next corner of your journey?
3. As we are moving into this new era, what are the groanings of creation you are hearing around you?
4. What promise does God have for you in your current season?
5. How do we partner with God in addressing creation's groanings around us from a place of complete rest and peace?
6. How is Dad opening the heavens for you to live the adventure, to be embraced now, and see more of his goodness?
7. How do we pursue God's assignments without them becoming burdensome and heavy to manage?

Discover and Live Out Your Unique Commission

God calls us to train as Warrior Ambassadors of Love. We are a Kingdom bridge to unconditional love and freedom in Christ. We empower a dynamic lifestyle with God and others.

Our passion to seek God's heart means He's our First Love. We believe God expands our capacity to love greatly through abiding rest in Him, training, and ongoing connection, even as seasoned Warriors.

Join *The Warrior Commission*, find your Commission as a Warrior: one who champions the cause of Christ and influences the world for Jesus in the way He always intended us to!

We encourage you to enjoy this publication of *The Warrior Commission's Frontline*.

We created it with you in mind, to support you on your journey with the Lord.

You are welcome to print out a copy for your personal use and share it with friends or send it to them through email.

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