

Empowering People to Change the World

Dealing with Disappointment Brian Ming

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DEALING WITH DISAPPOINTMENT

"The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy; I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." (John 10:10 KJV) 1. God will ask us to believe things that seem IMPOSSIBLE. "For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it." (Matthew 16:25 KJV) "But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;" (Matthew 5:44 KJV) 2. God will ask us to believe things that seem impossible WITHOUT HIS HELP. Dealing with Disappointment "So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe—the ornate robe he was wearing—and they took him and threw him into the cistern... So when the Midianite merchants came by, his brothers pulled Joseph up out of the cistern and sold him for twenty shekels of silver to the Ishmaelites, who took him to Egypt... Then they got Joseph's robe, slaughtered a goat and dipped the robe in the blood. They took the ornate robe back to their father and said, "We found this. Examine it to see whether it is your son's robe." He recognized it and said, "It is my son's robe! Some ferocious animal has devoured him. Joseph has surely been torn to pieces." Then Jacob tore his clothes, put on sackcloth and mourned for his son many days." (Genesis 37:23-24, 28, 32-34 NIV) 3. In the midst of believing God's promises, everyone deals with loss and disappointment.

Three Ways to deal with disappointment:

A. Don't give up praying.

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." (1 Thess 5:16-18 ESV)

"But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him*: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." (Heb 11:6 KJV)

Don't cease praying by faith, seek God diligently, and you will be rewarded.

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- A. Don't give up praying.
- B. Praise and worship your way out. (Acts 16:16-40)
- C. Know when and when not to speak.

"Do not give what is holy to the dogs; nor cast your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you in pieces." (Matt 7:6 NKJV)

"Then Joseph prepared his chariot and went up to meet Israel his father in Goshen. He presented himself to him and fell on his neck and wept on his neck a good while. Israel said to Joseph, "Now let me die, since I have seen your face and know that you are still alive."" (Genesis 46:29-30 ESV)