



SeriesNotes



Part 4: Overcome Your Obstacles | September 11-12, 2010

Main Point: To overcome your obstacles you must abide and abound.

The Bible gives us two words that are very important clues for overcoming obstacles so we can be the best version of the “me I was created to be.” Those words are ABIDE and ABOUND.

#1 Abound

Jesus makes his goal for our lives very clear.

John 10:10. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life. (NLT)

1 Corinthians 15:58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord. (NASB)

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#2 Abide

John 15:4. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me. (NASB)

We cannot bear good fruit by ourselves. We must abide! The word “abide” means dwell, linger, remain in the presence...deeply rooted, centered.

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#3 Tension between ABOUNDING and ABIDING

Abiding and abounding set us up for tension that will always have to be managed. On the one hand, we want to seize opportunities to do great things for God. On the other hand, we need to be still and know He is God, ruthlessly eliminating hurry in our lives, growing in the Spirit, and sensing the Lord as our shepherd.

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#4 ABOUNDING and ABIDING in the face of obstacles

First, we must take responsibility for abounding and abiding. No one can do it for us. When we fail to abide and abound, we tend to want to evade responsibility, to blame others, the company we work for, or someone else.

Second, we need systems or disciplines in place in order to abide and abound. Some of these disciplines include meditation and solitude, wise use of our finances, and being sure we make time for activities that excite us.

Third, we need to recognize things that are destructive in our lives, including ingratitude, anxiety, escapism, etc.

Colossians 3:1-2. Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits in the place of honor at God's right hand. Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth. (NLT)

Fourth, stay rooted in the big vision of God and His glory.

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When obstacles come, it can be difficult to move through life with any sense of direction, purpose, or meaning. We have to abide in God's love and abound in His amazing grace. This is how you stay in the flow of the Spirit of God. This is how you can live a victorious life regardless of your circumstances!

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