



Overcome Your Obstacles September 11-12, 2010; Greg Johnson

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

Generate

Think of an obstacle in your life that has been difficult for you to overcome; and if you feel comfortable, discuss it with your group. What made this obstacle so difficult? What did you do to overcome it?

Core

1. Read John 10:10. In this verse, Jesus says He came to give us a rich and satisfying life. What is the world's definition of a rich and satisfying life? How do you think Jesus would define such a life? How does Jesus give us that rich and satisfying life?
2. **1 Corinthians 15:58 says: Be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord. (NASB).** In practical terms, how are you abounding, or not abounding, in your own life? In what ways might you rely more heavily on God's Holy Spirit and your God-given gifts, abilities, and passions to help you abound?
3. **John 15:4 says: 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.** What kind of fruit is Jesus talking about? What kinds of obstacles tend to keep you from abiding in Jesus? Why can't you truly **abound** if you don't **abide** in Jesus?
4. What are some things you could change in your life that would help you to better abound and abide in Jesus Christ? In what ways is ingratitude one of the biggest obstacles to abounding and abiding?
5. **Colossians 3:1-2 says: 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.** What does it mean to "set your sights on the realities of heaven?" In what ways would your life be different if you thought more about the things of heaven?

Challenge

Think of the biggest obstacle or most trying circumstance you are currently facing. Ask God to show you how you might abide and abound in this situation. Ask Him to give you the courage to truly trust Him with this issue and jump into the flow of His Spirit.

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