

When Stuff Gets Tough

Sermon Title: **When Stuff Gets Tough**

Sermon Number: **5169**

Speaker: **Nathaniel Bronner**

Link to sermon audio - <http://www.theonlineword.com/mp3/5169.mp3>

Link to sermon video - <http://theark.s3.amazonaws.com/vid/5169.mp4>



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Nathaniel Bronner: You've got some tough stuff in your life. Well, I want you to stay tuned to the daily broadcast and thank you for joining Brothers of the Word, because God has directed me today to deal with the tough stuff that it's in your life. So, if you got tough stuff in your world right now, don't change, don't move. Listen to what God is going to speak into your world today and I thank you for joining Brothers of the Word because brother, you need The Word.

And God directed me today to just bring unto you a message simply entitled, When Stuff Gets Tough. How many of you all have got some tough stuff in your world right now? Just turn to your neighbor and tell them, "I've got some tough stuff." And those of you that are hearing this message right now, there's so many of your right now, you have some tough stuff that you're dealing with right now and God wants to tell you how to deal with the tough stuff.

See, real religion does not really come out when things are tender. You don't need a whole lot of religion to be happy when things and everything just going your way. Real religion, the real peace of Jesus, when people can really know your rooted and grounded, it comes out in a tough stuff. It didn't come out when just everything, just flow in your way, if it's in the tough stuff that people can really see what you're made out of.

That's the law of engineering, you cannot test the system having it running on low power. When they're testing airplanes, you have to put it in a wind tunnel that sends winds against the thing that test it at maximum hurricane force. You can't test when an airplane is going hold together, sitting on a runway, but no wind blowing. You've got to put that thing through the storm.

So sometimes, God will even send you through some tough stuff to develop you. That's why, if you really want to shake a man's hand, it's really going to like with his hands when you shake his hands, you'll find that his hands are calloused, because he's going through some tough stuff. He has been taking up wood and nails and hammers and saw. And when you work, you find his hands will change and they'll harden and they will be able to handle the tough stuff.

Find a man that's walking barefoot. And you find the bottom of his feet will have become calloused over and harden and you'll be able to walk on a gravel with no problem, because he's going

through some tough stuff. See one thing about life is, when you haven't handled any tough stuff, you can't handle tough stuff.

You have to go through some tough stuff to even be able to deal with some tough stuff, because if you haven't had any tough stuff, you can't handle it, and when it comes, it will just about tear you in two, because you haven't handled any tough stuff. So, God just wants me today to talk to you about when stuff gets tough.

And I'll open from the Book of Job 2 Chapter 12 Verse and it reads, I'm reading from the New Living Translation, "When they saw Job from a distance, they scarcely recognized him." You know stuff can change you were folks will even won't recognize you. "When they saw Job from a distance, they scarcely recognized him. Wailing loudly, they tore their robes and threw dust into the air over their heads to demonstrate their grief. Then they sat on the ground with him for seven days and nights and no one said a word, for they saw that his suffering was too great for words."

Sometimes, folks, the stuff can be so tough, you can't even put it in words. All you can say sometimes, it's just -- and you can't, I mean, if you go through some real pain, just something as smaller as a toothache. I mean, real pain where it just got your whole side of your head feel like, someone hitting it with a sledge hammer and someone asks you to write down how it feels. You can say intense, excruciating, piercing pains, but that don't really describe how you're feeling.

Sometimes all you did -- you can't even put it in words. All you can do is just groan on the thing. They say, his situation was so tough, they just sat quiet for seven whole days and nights, not saying even because words couldn't even describe it. He was going through some tough stuff. At last Job spoken, he cursed the day of his birth. He said, "Cursed be the day of my birth --

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And cursed be night when I was conceived." Sometimes, folks, when you're in a tough situation, first hand you're going to do is, you wish you just never got in that situation. You go through a little trouble in your marriage, cursed be the day I married this person. I mean, I wish I never sat down. You all know, what I'm saying? You begin to curse the day of the inception of the things.

Yelling back and it started giving you all kind of trouble and little like, "I wished I never started this thing."

And sometimes, you begin to curse the day that the thing was born on because it's so tough. Job says, "Let that day be turned to darkness. Let it be lost even to God on high and let it be showered in darkness. Yes, let the darkness and utter gloom claim it for its own. Let a black cloud overshadow it and let the darkness terrify it. Let that night be blotted off the calendar, never again to be counted among the days of the year, never again to appear into the months. Let that night be barren, let it have no joy. Let those who are experts at cursing, those who are ready to rouse the seat month that cursed day."

He said, "Let the sailor being cursed" because they get showing up first. He said, "They day that I was born. I'm going through so much tough stuff; I don't have a curse worth of cursing. Let the sailor curse the day that I was born." You all turned to your neighbors and say, "That's some tough stuff." Job was going through tough stuff and you see, Job had all three of the areas that compromise about 90 percent of our tough stuff, which is money, health and family.

All Jobs cattle were gone, all of his sheep and his oxen had it all been killed and destroyed. He lost all of his wealth. That was his money and see, you can go through some tough stuff in money. When your money gets short, you don't know how you're going to pay your bills. You don't know how you're going to make it there. And absolutely, so that some tough stuff. So, you'd be praying up all day long, but you don't know how you're going to pay your mortgage or your rent first when the month comes.

And here it is on the 29th and the first is right around the corner and you don't have a quarter to your name. You don't know how you're going to pay it, don't you see, "That's some tough stuff." At least, they don't give you a whole lot of time. You get the late notice on the fifth, by the eight or will be starting eviction papers, and you know, you're going to be out there by the 20th and you don't even know where you're going, that's some tough stuff.

Job's money was messed up, then all of his children had been killed. It's messed with his family, that's some tough stuff. You let them stuff come in and enter your household and start fooling with your children or start fooling with your relationship, where

now your children have gone haywire or now between you and your spouse, that is going haywire. That can start just messing with your world and how the way you can't sleep at night. You always tell them again, that's some tough stuff.

And the last thing is in the arena of health. It says, that Job had gotten boils on his body from head to toe. His whole body was covered with sores and scabs and say, he sat down and scraped his skin and it came off like pottery and he was sick and miserable and in pain and looking bad. All of his physical health had been gone and here he was worried about what was happening to his body. You all know, that's some tough stuff?

It's some tough stuff not only when you know what's wrong with you. It's even tough, when you don't even know what's wrong with you. You let the doctor tell you, "Well, we noticed something on the x-ray. We don't know what it is, but if you just come in next month, we'll see, if we can find out." Do you know during those next 30 days waiting on next month, you find out you got something? You don't even know what it is, that is bothering you and that they didn't see something in that. Do you know that thing worry you to death?

Do you know that becomes from tough stuff and it manifested just being thinking about it? It causes you to have some problems. Job all of his money, gone. All of his children gone. His health in shambles. The only thing that the devil left Job was a nagging wife. Men, don't turn to your wife. Turn to someone sitting. You all turn to another man and say, "That's some tough stuff going on" I mean, everything going, and all that's left is a nagging woman, fussing at you, telling, "Why you stopped going and how are we going to pay the bills here now? Look what had happened to children? Man, what did you do? You ought to do this, you ought to do that. I'll just have enough—"Man, that's some tough stuff."

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So, Job was all of his stuff stripped away and that he is in the house with a nagging woman and he said, "Lord look, I just cursed the day I was born." That's some tough stuff. What do you do when stuff gets tough?

I want you to remember these things and I'm going to try to make it as simple as possible. Because if you can grab a hold of these three things, it will perhaps, help you through it and help you to be able to handle when stuff gets tough. If your coverage is down, what is the leading cost service if you would call to come rescue you?

Triple A, I heard it right. Well, I want you to remember Triple A, because everything that I'm going to tell you begins in A. And the first thing that you need to do when stuff gets tough, is pray. I preached a sermon not too long ago called, Pray Without Ceasing and if you don't know how to pray, you need to get that and you need to listen to that sermon. First thing, you need to do is pray, but you need to know how to pray.

You see, Jesus told us how to pray and we need to look at the manner in, which Jesus told us how to pray. Most of us don't pray, we beg and we complain. He said, "Pray." You learn it, he said, "After this man of prayer, Our Father which art in heaven." If you listen to the way Jesus told you to pray, there's a great revelation in Our Father, that's number one. I know who my daddy is.

Many of us are in trouble, because we don't know our daddy and that's a physical and a spiritual thing. See, when a child doesn't know his daddy, you got a problem. And when we, in the spiritual don't know our Father, our Father. I know who my daddy is. My daddy is bigger than any daddy on the block. And when you know your daddy is bigger than any daddy on the block, my daddy has more resources and more power than any daddy in the world.

So, I know who my daddy is. Turn to the person sitting next to you and ask them, "Who's your daddy?" See, you got to know who your daddy is, and some of us got so many problems, because we got the wrong daddy. When you know who your daddy is, there that is not a problem that I have that my daddy can't handle. Our Father, which art in heaven. He is in heave and He looks down and He is able to see my situation.

My daddy already knows what I need. I don't tell my daddy what I need, He already knows. I'm not going to sit here and tell my daddy I got this problem, just probably got, "Daddy knows." You care to know what your problem is, you don't have to tell Him that. So, that's why Jesus, He told you and He gave you the

mechanism and the method and the procedure on how to pray. Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed by thy name, which means, honor your name.

You see, when you got to pray, start out by honoring and praising God. Don't start out cussing and fussing and complaining and belly aching, start out by praising God. Our Father, daddy, I thank you Lord, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done. Most of the time, we want our will done.

Thy kingdom comes. Now where is the kingdom of God? It's within, Jesus told you where. We spend too much time trying to change our external world. If we can get the kingdom right on the inside, thy kingdom come. He told you where the kingdom is, we're spending all this time trying to get to outside world straight and we don't get the inside kingdom straight and that's why the outside world will never straighten out. It wasn't here until we get this in here straightened out. Thy kingdom come, you got to know where it is. Lord, straighten me up on the inside. Lord, and if we can get this inside straight, you would be surprised what all that stuff will do for the outside. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done. Lord, do as I will.

Let me tell you this people, too often, we try to get some divine supernatural revelation of the will of God and we have not followed the Will and Words. See, there's no need that you're trying to get some new revelation or something He's already said. You don't have to ask, "Lord, is this your will for me to act, right?" No, you don't have to ask. See, if it's the only time you need supernatural revelation is that, something that God has not spoken off specifically your situation.

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We're getting ready to go into one flesh revival. God told you some things on how to behave between man and woman. You are not going to ask, "Look Lord, I'm the woman. Do I need to be ahead over this?" You can't ask that question; God has already answered that. So, thy will be done. Too often, we want to do our own thing and when we don't know how to do our own thing, stuff is going to get tough. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. And the only thing that God, that Jesus instructed us to ask for, to give us this day our daily bread. Give me something to eat today, that's all He said.

Now, sometimes we extrapolate that into our daily bread, means our daily provision, it means mortgage, it means the condo, it means all this, well, definite strictly. But that's not what Jesus is saying. That's an extrapolation by man, but that's not what Jesus said. He said, "Give us this day our daily bread." That's all, something to eat, something to eat. How many of you all here had something to eat today? If you haven't eaten, it is not because you didn't have it, it was just, you were running late.

Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Now this is the only line that Jesus commented about in the prayer. We want God to forgive us of our sins, we want God to give us and do have mercy on us, to straighten us right after, we have messed up. He said, "Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors." Turn to the person sitting next to you and ask him, "Who have you forgiven lately?"

Now if you cannot answer that question, God sent Jesus and he said, "You have no right to ask the heavenly Father to forgive you if you haven't forgiven." If you haven't forgiven anybody lately, that's one other thing that one of the hindrances that even getting your healing is unforgiveness. If you haven't forgiven, you have no right to ask God to forgive you.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. That's the way you're supposed to pray. No complaints, no begging, that's the way you start the prayer. When stuff gets tough, the first thing you do, pray. Second thing you do is this, the right way. You all say, way. You got to understand the right way. Proverbs 12:15, put it like this, it says, "The way of a fool is right in his own eyes: but he that hearkeneth unto counsel is wise." Whenever stuff is tough, you need to always make sure that you have the right way. That you're doing, and the only way generally gets the right way is, you have to get in touch with someone who's stuff getting tough.

If you want to get out of the wilderness you can't ask someone in the wilderness how to get out. Because if they knew how to get out, they would be out themselves. You need to always get someone that has gone through and has gotten, and not someone is going through. I said, someone is going through it. Because the only thing someone is going through it, can tell you, it's how

to survive in the wilderness. If you're having trouble in your relationship, get you someone that's have a solid relationship, that's happy in that relationship. That's been--

Don't you get somebody in there that's fussing and fighting, because they will tell you how to survive. He said, "Look child." That might hit you again, let me tell you what you'd do. Go get yourself one of those heavy frying pans and you get the heavy frying pan, and look don't swing it like this, because you may block it, you got to swing it up underneath and you catch him on, and you catch him right there. See, they won't tell you how to survive in the wilderness, because our frying pan will work. Ladies, I tell them our frying pan will work. See, a frying pan will work. That is a legitimate survival technique. But that will always keep you in the wilderness, it will keep you fussing inside.

It will keep you at odds, it will keep you separated, it will work. It will help you survive in the wilderness, but if you go to somebody who is using a frying pan, all they can tell you is, a frying pan technique. You got to get someone that's out of the wilderness to tell you how to get out of the wilderness. To many of us have been asking folks with frying pans in their hands, and as a result, they tell us and we end up with a frying pan in our hands. You got money troubles?

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Anyone that has money troubles never has any fears with missing to render my money class. We have a class that's teaching people financial management every third Saturday at 10:00 am here at the Arc of Salvation. But most of the time, people that have financial problems won't come to the class. You know why? Because the way of the fool is right his own eyes. I know how to handle my own money. No, if you didn't, because if you knew how, you wouldn't be in that jam. You need to come and get some wisdom on how to handle your money. Don't be stubborn, don't be foolish, come and grab and drink from the source of wisdom that will teach you some things about the right way with things.

Don't ask someone who's broke how to handle your money, go and get somebody who's got something, that's out of the wilderness and let them tell you and listen to what they say. We have a fellow that works for my company and he gets his check every three months. We try to pay him every month, but he didn't want

to turn in this stuff and James told me the other day, he said, "This man has to be doing some awesome financial management." and I thought about it. I'm having the fellow come in and speak to my people at the company, I want success.

I said man, "You handle your money this well." I want you to be able to cheer these other folks because most folks out here, they need their money, not only can they wait three months, they can't wait through 3 p.m., they got to get in before two, so the check won't bounce. I need you to tell them, plus a majority of them how to -- I want success to teach them and to train them how to do this stuff. Get someone that's out of the wilderness and find the right way.

The third A is this, stay. Don't even tell them to stay. See, once you find the right way, the problem is there to stay. How many of you all have been on a diet recently? Quite a few. See, the problem is not the diet. How many of you ever started an exercise program in the last five years? See, the problem is not the way, you know the way, you know what the problem is? That one word, stay. So, you find the way, but you can't stay on the way. We become wishy washy, we waiver in and out.

You have got to find the way and then, you got to stay on the way. And so many people that even do God like that. When they're in a tough situation, they come back in a church, that's why after 9/11, every church in the country was crowded, because things got tough, the church filled up. The minute things calmed down; the churches have emptied out. Because they knew the way and they came into the way when they were in trouble, but the minute the trouble ended, they went back to the old way. You got to stay. Whatever brought you over, will keep you over.

But when it brings us over, we get lax and we get slacking, we slide back. You got to learn the perseverance of staying in. See, hearing all this revelation and learning the knowledge, and I heard what the pastor said about praying, I heard what the pastor says about praying, and it will work for you for a while, but what happens three weeks from now, when stuff gets tougher? Some of you are going to forget, you got to stay. And you stick with the thing. Those that are successful in every area of life, they have learned the discipline of diligence, that's why the Bible says, a double-minded man is unstable in all of his ways. When you

cannot find something that you that you got to find it, that good and fine, but you have got to stay.

It's another quick thing, you got to stay. Relationship, you got to stay. We changed churches, we changed partners, we change jobs, because we have lost the ability to stay. Pray, find the right way, and stay and it will help you to overcome and to get out of your tough situation. When stuff gets tough, go to these triple A's. Thank you for joining Brothers of the Word, because brother, you need The Word.

(Music Playing)

Amen and amen and amen and amen. Most of the time, we can get everything in and a lot of times, there are some things I had just to get by this day, but for those of you that are going through tough stuff. Learn those three A's and pray, find the right way and stay with it. You'll be amazed at what that will do to keep you out of tough stuff

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Because I'll tell you people, tough is a relative term, and once you become enlightened, you'll start seeing that the stuff you think is so tough, is not so tough at all. Because you got your daily bread and it will change the way that you view your situations. If any of you need to get a copy of today's message, when you need to listen to this over and over and have some friends that you need to take this to, because they're in tough situations. Pray and find the right way, and then stay.

00:25:45