

Don't Get Weary

Sermon Title: **Don't Get Weary**

Sermon Number: **5837**

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Nathaniel Bronner: If you ever want to be able to soar, you've got to have vision.

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(Music Playing: 00:00:16 - 00:00:44)

And now for 5837, "Don't Get Weary."

Nathaniel Bronner: Welcome to BrothersofTheWord because brother, you need the word.

And today's message is coming from a scripture that we've all heard countless times before. It's Isaiah 40:31 and this is the NIV version, "But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not be faint. This was a verse sent to a people who had been in exile, who had been in captivity in the country of Babylon for 70 years. In here, they've been locked up by Babylon and all this time and they were tired. They were tired of captivity. They were tired of oppression and these 70 years is a long, long time. Seventy years is enough time to grow up. It's enough time to get married. It's enough time to have children and it's even enough time to have grandchildren. They had been in bondage. They had been in captivity for 70 years and here Isaiah comes to them and says, "But those who hope in the Lord, will renew their strength."

After 70 years, they will soar on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint. And here these people, been in bondage this long and here Isaiah speaks this prophetic word to them. Now, for today, God told me as I was researching this, and I was actually going to use the King James Version. He said, "No, I want to use the NIV version." Now, some people have some issues with modern versions of the Bible. The NIV is actioned every instance I have checked but one instance, the NIV is always more accurate to the original Hebrew and to the original Greek. But some folks are just stuck on the King James Version, if not King James but God just didn't say it. All of them are translations and not of them are actually original verbiage, original scripture, original wording. They're all

translated from the original Greek, the original Hebrew, or the original Aramaic.

So, the NIV and virtually, every instance that I have checked and compared it against the original. It is more accurate and the other thing, I don't know a single person that is woken up naked in sin due to a translation. I just don't know it. I don't know any situation where it's (00:03:32). I just messed up because I was reading this verse in the Bible and it told me to this when it really meant this. I don't know a single case where anybody has woken up butt naked in sin due to a translation. Usually, we understand the word no matter how it's translated. We understand it real clear. We just don't do what it says but God told me today use the NIV version and I want to even show you some of the differences between the two. The NIV, "But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength." The King James Version says, "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength." The actual Hebrew word is a word for "wait" called "qavah" and it means to bind together perhaps by twisting to inspect.

"So, here is those who hope in the Lord. Those who are bound together. Those who expect. Those who have their faith twisted together with what God had said. They shall renew their strength." Then at the NIV, "They will soar on wings like eagles." The King James says, "They shall mount up with wings as eagle." That word mount in the original Hebrew is the word "alah" it means to ascend, to arise, to go up. So, the NIV version actually is more accurate in every case. But here these verses, they represent the three stages of positions in life for those who hope in the Lord.

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And when you are in the Lord, it does not mean life is just easy all the time. Absolutely not, but they represent the three positions in life. First, we soar on wings as eagles and fly. And sometimes we're just on top of the world, you know everything working. Everything is just going right. We feel good, we looking good. There's plenty of money in the bank. You know, everything going smooth at home. You your breath smelling sweet, everything's going right. And there are times, when we soar as eagles, when we're just above all of the problems of the earth and we feel almost invincible and invulnerable and we feel fantastic. We just feel good, there's not a pain in our body. There's not a

pain in our mind. There's not a pain in our spirit. They are times when we feel like we are soaring above it all and we just feel like eagles flying high.

And there's a second position, where we run but we're not getting weary. We're not flying but we are running. And there are times when we have a goal in mind. When we haven't reached the top but we're climbing, we're running, we're pushing and you know when you got something that really excites you, you don't get tired in this thing. When you've got something where you can see the fruition coming of what you're working on. You can work all day and all night and week after week after week if there's an enthusiasm, there's an energy, there's a power with it. Because you can see the outcome. You can see what's coming. You can see the goal and as a result, you're tireless in this endeavor. It gives you just power and strength and it gives you the will to go on with a smile and with a joy. That's running and you don't even get weary. You're not flying but you're running and you're running strong and you're running good. And in some of us right now, we're in position one or we're in position two. But the message for today is for that person who is in position number three. And sometimes it's all that we can do to walk through life and not get faint.

Now this is one verse where the King James differs from the NIV. The NIV it says that, "They shall run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." The King James says, "They shall run and not be weary and they shall walk and not faint." There's a big difference in walking and not being faint. Being faint basically means that you're weakened. You're lacking energy. You lack drive. You just feel like a wet dish rag and you don't have power. You don't have strength. You just tired and you're just weary. To faint means you actually just fall out. So, the King James is actually more accurate because the word "actually" does mean "weary". It doesn't mean that you just fall out. Now, you can be so weary that you just faint but generally fainting in its modern vernacular simply means to lose consciousness. And it is not that we lose consciousness, we're just tired. And we're tired because we have run so long but yet the goal still seems to be way out of reach. And it's not coming any closer and we've been running and after you have run so long, you have to start walking.

I am a runner. I run half marathons which is 13.1 miles. And there is a point when people run long distances. It's called the

wall. Most people who run full marathons which is a double a half marathon. It's 26.2 miles. They generally will hit what's called the wall at about 17 miles. And when they get to 17 miles, it just looks like somebody just pulled the plug out of their energy and you start just getting weak and your breath comes short, and you just don't have the energy and the drive. And it goes to something, biologically called the Krebs cycle and you have to get back and get re-energized and it's what's called getting your second win but you hit the wall. I run half marathons. I hit the wall at nine miles. Seven miles is past the good. And I remember the last one that I ran and I was running with a group and all of the much younger because your often will run by tying the groups. And I was actually running with this group that was faster than I had ever run before. But I said, "Look, I'm going to get fast, I need to run with somebody who is faster."

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And I had about two miles, the leader of the group who is faster. And at about two miles, the leader of the group looked back, he said, "Everybody holding up good, you're all looking back there." I said, "Check with me at 10 miles" And I learned first of all what you speak has a power to manifest and when I hit nine miles, I was dead right in the center of the group but about nine on a quarter miles, the wall hit, and my energy just started dropping in, the wave of fatigue just came over me and I'm started dropping further and further back from the group. By the time I hit the 10-mile marker, the group was way ahead of me.

So, sometimes, we are running for a season but our energy gives out and life circumstances, the hills of life get too steep and there's someone I'm talking to right now and you're just tired and you had the nine-mile mark. You've dealt with this thing for a long time. See most of the things it breaks out spirit and break us down, is not stuff that just happens over a day or two. We've been battling it so long and we're running a marathon through life and we just get tired of it and sometimes we get tired and we forget and we lose sight of God and we lose our hope in God and will say these words that are all too familiar that our savior said, "Father, father, why has thou forsaken me?"

When you hang on a certain situation, for a certain at a time even though you know God is real, even though you know God is with you. The pain becomes so great. The dealing with it for so long, you love so much and you bled so much, that you have to ask,

“Father, father, where are you? And there is someone within the sound of my voice right now and you’re at that point and you want to know what do I do, I’m tired. How do I win this race? How do I keep running? What do I do? How do I rise up and soar like an eagle? How do I get this done? How do I not to get weary and give up?”

I want to just give you some facts about the eagle. When God uses this particular animal to describe some things? I want you to understand some traits of that particular bird who happens to be to the national bird of America. I want you to understand some traits about this thing called an eagle. Number one, an eagle mates for life. If you are fortunate enough to marry an eagle, you’re going to be -- an eagle mates for life. And that may not sound like a big deal but one of the biggest things that can drain your energy is relationship. An eagle mates for life. So, that’s number one when you’re bound together with something that you have made a commitment too, an eagle mates for life.

Number two, an eagle uses the same nest for his whole life. Eagle don’t even be switching houses. Eagle don’t be switching churches. Eagle stay in the same nest. Eagle don’t even be switching job. No, I’m no telling you not to move from house -- I don’t leave in the same I started end, not even the second house or the third. I’m not telling you not to move houses. I’m not telling you to transition your job. I’m just telling you an eagle don’t. An eagle is stable in relationship and position and place. And there is something about stability that allows you to weather storms.

Number three, both parents take care of the young within an eagle’s family. It ain’t no situation where it’s a single parent household. Both parents take care of the young with an eagle. And number four, at three months, they get special feathers for flying and a new learning experience begins. The mother eagle will fly into the nest and she begins to thrash around causing a great commotion. She stirs up the nest. Eventually, one of the babies will fall out of the nest and begin heading for the ground but they never flown before and they’re not really sure what to do, but they do a whole lot of flapping while heading straight down. Just before the baby hits the grown, the mother eagle flies underneath in order to catch the baby on her wings and she flies him back and puts him in the nest. Then she starts flapping around, stirs up the nest again, knocks the baby out.

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His flapping down, fall into the ground, she flies down, catches the baby on the back of her wings and brings him back up to the nest, repeats it all over again until that little eagle learns how to fly.

Dueteronomy 32:11 talks about this. Dueteronomy 32:11 says, “Like an eagle that stirs up its nest, and hovers over its young that spreads its wings to catch them, and carries them on its pinions.” That’s the story of how an eagle teaches a little bitty baby eagle to fly. Now, the problem is this. You all say the problem. *[Problem]* While you’re learning to fly, it’s not pleasant. You’re being booted out of the nest out of somewhere where you’re comfortable, you’re falling down, there are very few fears that are intrinsic to human nature. There are really only two things that you’re born with. It’s a fear of loud noises and the fear of falling. Those are the only two. Every other fear you got developed through some part of your environment but you’re only born with two basic fears. The fear of falling and the fear of loud noises. So, this fear of falling for this little young eaglet is intrinsic, is natural. So, here the mama had booted it out of the nest, is falling way down at a rapid ray and he’s just flapping scared to death.

See, some you are going through what you think as a fall. You’re going through what you think is turmoil, it’s just the eagle stirring up the nest. And it’s booting you out of the nest so that you can learn to fly so that you can soar and you will never soar until you first learn to fly, but learning to fly is sometimes a painful and often a scary process that’s not pleasant and none of us would voluntarily choose to do it.

If that baby eagle has his choice, he said, “Mama don’t this. Don’t push me out this nest.” If that baby eagle had his choice, it would never leave the nest. Many of us would never undergo anything that’s tough and rough to train our spirits to train our minds to train us how to handle some adversity. Many of us would never do that. If we weren’t booted out of that nest. So, some of us are going through some things just because we go to learn how to fly.

And number five, an eagle has sharp vision and can see a rabbit from two miles away. That eagle can see. And really, if you ever want to be able to soar, you got to have vision. You got to have

vision to see some things and the future of your life to see where you are going. One of the things we often deal with, we're dealing with young people and one of the things there are sometimes so in whirlwind about is a vision for their future. They cannot see where they want to go. But adults are the same, (00:18:03) time because I don't know what I want to do. I don't know where I want to go. I'm just kind of wondering I don't have vision. An eagle can see a rabbit two miles away.

Number six. They can soar up two miles high and fly up to 100 miles an hour. When an eagle has to move, an eagle can move. When God has given you something when you see the rabbit, you need to be able to move. You know, you will never eat a rabbit, talking about the rabbit. And that's the way some Christians are. "That's really good over there," "Yeah, there's an opportunity over there." "Yeah, we can see it. That's some good opportunity." You would never get that rabbit if you don't move and move and move quicken. Well, some of us God has placed a rabbit right in our field of vision and we're waiting on God to kill the rabbit, skinned the rabbit, cooked the rabbit and then serve the rabbit to us on a plate. All our God is going to do is show you the rabbit and He will show you the rabbit and you have to get up. That's He wanted me to read that NIV because sometimes, we get those who wait on the Lord, and that's really -- I'm sitting here, waiting on our -- you put your hope in the Lord but when God gives you a vision and He gives you a destiny, you got to get up and you got to soar and you got to fly and got to move with that thing.

Number seven, they have a separate eyelid that slides across their eyes sideways in order to keep the eye clean and free from dust as they fly. Do, you know stuff will distract you from your vision and your destination? All kind of stuff will get in your eye that will keep you from getting to where God has for you to go. And that's one of the best tools of the devil is to keep you from getting to a place if show you another place that looks pretty good. That's why you have to put blinders on a horse because they look all kind of ways because they're looking at all this kind of stuff. See, an eagle got a separate eyelid that slides across and clears his vision.

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Some of you sometimes when you're going to some places and you see some and mingle, "(00:20:03)". So, some of you all, you just

need to do this. You just need to do this, and you can just -- this is that eagle eyelid coming (00:20:10) getting all this dust and dirt out of my eye. So, I don't go the way I'm not supposed to go and we can keep our vision clear, keep our focus to where we supposed to go, then we will be able to soar to the heights God want us to go.

Number eight, eagles do not fly like all other birds. They don't flap their wings but rather soar. Flapping their wings where you so much more energy if they didn't soar, instead they sit on the high ledge and wait for the right currents to come. When they time is right, they take off and soar upward effortlessly because they have waited for the right time. So, when eagle can sit there but did not sleep, they're waiting and they are prepared for the opportunity and the minute the opportunity comes, the eagle moves. This last thing about an eagle and this is particularly relevant to so many of us. When eagles are about 60 years old, they go through a renewal process. They find a secret place high in the mountains and the begin to claw at their face and they tear out the feathers that had been damaged over the years and eagle has about 7,000 feathers.

So, they claw at their face and they tear out all of the damaged feathers and as a result, the eagle bleeds real bad but this is necessary for the eagle in order to renew its strength. If it did not do this, it would not be able to live its normal life span. The normal life span of an eagle is around 120 years. But when it gets to 60, the eagle said, "I got to get rid all that is damaged and bad stuff that's on me." Some of you right now need to pluck out the bad and damaged stuff that's on you. You got some covering and you got some stuff; you get some hurt, you get some pain, you got resentment, you got some unforgiveness, you got somebody stuff that's on you and you will never live to let all the quality of life that God made for you carrying all that stuff, but it's tough to get it off, plucking it out. Sometimes almost causes blood and pain and discomfort. It's like getting out of that nest and learning to fly. Sometimes, some of us even at 60 years old need to renew some things and maybe you need to renew this at the half point in life. The half point in life for the average person on America is around 40, and at 40, you might just need to get in the mirror and say, "What do I need to pluck out of my life? What do I need to pluck out of my spirit so that I can make it to where God has for me to go in full joy and contentment? What do I need to remove?"

What feathers? What covering do I have that's damaged that I need to take off.

See, sometimes we're weary and we're worrying from walking because we're carrying so much extra weight and so much baggage and it's emotional and psychological from all of these past stuffs that we just need to let go because you can't fly with all these stuff on you. So, God wants to just take us to another level.

In 490 B.C. in ancient Greece, a soldier named Pheidippides ran all the way from Sparta to Athens and these are Grecian cities, to get reinforcements for the war. He fought in the war for two days, then he ran 26.2 miles back to Athens from Marathon. He was so tired that he collapsed when he arrived. Now, he ran from Athens to Marathon, and that's where we get the name of that long 26.2-mile run called a "marathon." And when this runner got back to Marathon and he collapsed, he was so tired, he can only say one word. And the one word that Pheidippides said, everyone knows. You know the word, but you don't the meaning of the word.

See, there's kind of even like sometime with God and it's not God's word, this is a wordly word. You all know the word but you don't know the meaning of the word. The one word that Pheidippides said after running that 26.2 miles after fighting in battle for two days, he had run all the way from one city to the battle, fought two days in a battle then run 26.2 miles back, and he was just tired, he collapsed. He said one word, the one word that Pheidippides said was "Nike".

Nike is the Greek word for victory. Now all of us know it's a shoe. As a matter of fact, Nike is the number one selling shoe brand in the world.

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And it comes from that. Most people, you wear the shoes but you don't understand the meaning. Somebody of you all need some Nikes on. Now, I don't mean the actual shoe. I'm not endorsing Nike but I mean you need some Nikes on just in terms of what the word means, and this man ran this race. He fought the battle ran this race. He ran until he got to the destination and he collapsed to the destination but he still has strength to say that

one word, “victory”. And you need to run your race. You need to hang in there whether you have to run, whether you have to walk, whether you have to leap or whether you have to crawl.

You see, the problem that so many of the modern young world has now, they give up that’s why the suicide rate is so high. Suicide rate now has skyrocketed among young folk because they can’t endure and they can’t walk and they can’t run to the end. They just said, “I’m going to give up,” don’t understand that, had no way out because you don’ t know what’s on the side but I can guarantee, it ain’t no easy side if you don’t blown your brains out. So, they don’t have the endurance because they have lost their hope in the Lord.

For those who are weary, you’ve got to put your hope back in the Lord but you got to be obedient to what he says to do and when your hope is back in the Lord, he will fulfill just as he told Isaiah. He told Isaiah, “That those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength.” Renew their strength. I don’t care how old you are, you can renew your strength, but you will not renew your strength laying down. I can pretty much guarantee you that. As a matter of fact, late at night, you will get weaker. That’s one of the goals that I have in my life. I’m 63 years old right now, but I have a goal to be stronger, faster, and have more endurance that I had ever had in my life and it’s absolutely possible. I’m on my way now, but it’s not easy. It takes some feather pulling to get that done but you can renew your strength. There’s no such thing, “I’m just too old.” No, you ain’t too old, you may be too lazy but you’re not too old. That’s two different things. You need to recognize the truth. You may be too lazy but you’re not too old. So you can do and you can renew your strength.

I see (00:27:29) is doing what God has told me to do. So, when you do what God has told you to do, He takes you to a whole new level. He strengthens you, and He renews your spirit, when He renews your spirit it gives you energy to renew your body, but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength.

They will soar on wings like eagles. I’m soaring, I’m at the top of the world but I recognized there are those three stages and they are intermittently intertwined. You soar and at one moment, stuff happens. (00:28:00) stuff happens, stuff happens. So, you may be on top of the world right now, you maybe soaring like an eagle right now but stuff happens. Stuff may happened but I will

never lose my hope in the Lord, and as long as I don't lose my hope in the Lord, I can deal with it when I have to come down from the eagles flight and I have to run and I can deal with it when I have to walk and as long as I have hope in the Lord as long as I know God is with me, as long as I keep hearing His voice and as long as I keep doing what He tells me to do, I can walk and not get weary. And not getting weary really refers to a spirit not a physical thing.

When I hit that 9-mile mark, I would be -- I'm tired. I'm just tired, right? The 12-mile mark I'm really tired but oddly enough when I hit the 12.5-mile mark I have more energy that I had than that because I'd see the finish line. And when you can see that finish line, something just come over you -- when you have the vision of an eagle and you can see the destiny that God has set for you.

So some of you when God has given you a destiny, you you're your eye on the destiny. Don't keep your eye on the devil. And too many of us we got our eyes on the devil, instead on the destiny. When you keep your eye on the destiny, it renews your strength and you can soar like an eagle or you can run like a lion, or you can walk and not be faint.

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