

pt.2 - Endurance - The Endurance To Keep Going

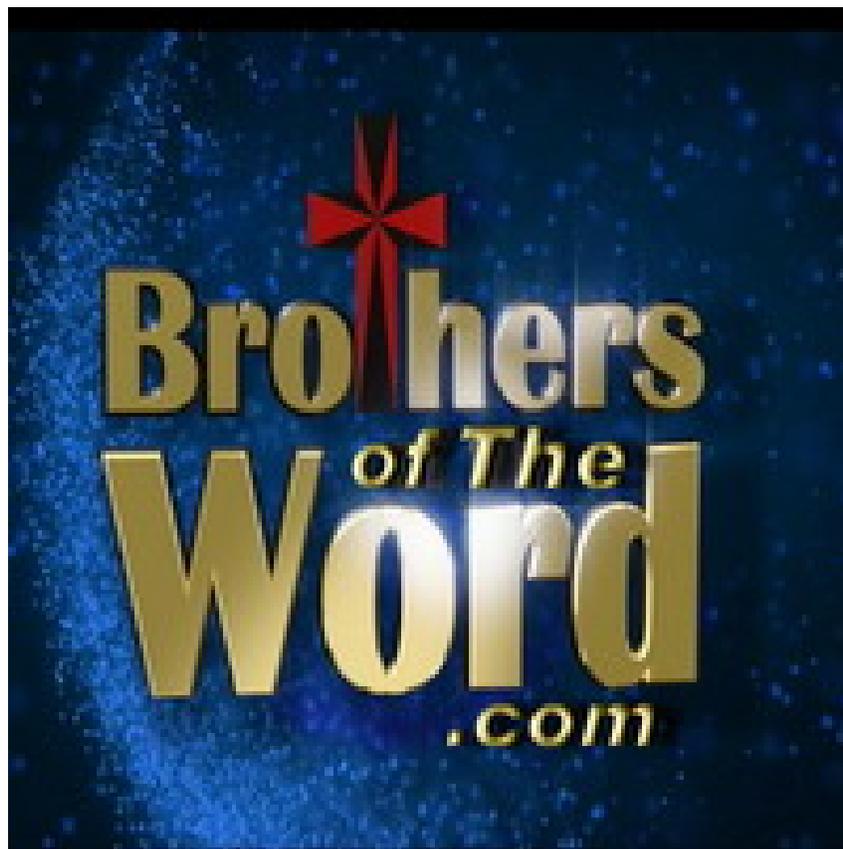
Sermon Title: **pt.2 - Endurance - The Endurance To Keep Going**

Sermon Number: **5682**

Speaker: **Nathaniel Bronner**

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Nathaniel Bronner: Regardless of what happens don't quit. You've got to have the endurance to keep going.

Female: You are listening to BrothersofTheWord.com. This is part 2 of the of the series titled, "Endurance" subtitled "The Endurance to Keep Going" by Nathaniel Bronner. This message is number 5682. That's 5682. Listen to over a thousand free messages on BrothersofTheWord.com.

(Music Playing: 00:00:26 - 00:00:54)

Female: And now for 5682, Endurance Part 2, The Endurance to Keep Going.

Nathaniel Bronner: Amen, Amen, Amen. This past week when I walked into the office, I had spent first part of the week in Las Vegas. I went there for a convention, and Wednesday is my day off so stayed another day. When I got back in the office, and I walked in and after I've been there for a while, Suzanne who is the manager said, she said, "Mr. Bronner, I notice you don't have a tan and everywhere that you go, you have been in Las Vegas for the last 4 or 5 days and you don't have tan." She said, "I know you everywhere you go you're in the sun." I said, "Yeah. I did. I walked 10 miles in the sun and it was about between a 104 and 106, it was hot." She said, "You don't have tan." She said, "What have you been doing different, and you don't have a tan?" I thought about it.

The week prior to that, I had gone to a training camp that my oldest son, El, had participated in. It is actually a camp for racecar drivers. One out of every three professional racecar drivers is trained in this camp. I went there and it was about 90 to 95 degrees and I stayed in the bleachers and watched him go around the track for several hours that day and was sitting directly in the Sun.

And then at the hotel where I stayed, I swam 100 laps in the pool and then I laid in the Sunday for over an hour again, just baking. I noticed when I went in from the sun, you take your trunks off and you can see this line this long, you're really, really tanned in where your trunks are. So, I noticed, I said, "There's barely any line." I noticed it but it just didn't fully register until Suzanne mentioned, "Why do you not have a tan?"

She said, “What have you have been doing different?” I said, “The only thing that I have been doing different is taking the product called Bones and Brains.”

I mentioned it back in the make-up room today and as Aphrodite was putting on my make-up, she says, “Pastor Bronner, I noticed it when you came back from Mexico, you didn’t have a tan.”

I was in Mexico for 5 or 6 days and it was like 100 degrees in Mexico. It was as hot as hell in Georgia and hell in Georgia is very hot. So, it was hot.

And yet I stayed in the sun. I laid in the sun for several days. I was out on the beach. I went walking in Mexico and she says, “Pastor I noticed, when you got back from Mexico,” she said, “Normally, we have to use a number 10 makeup on you because your skin has changed so much and it changed so much in color when you get back, we have to use a different makeup and I noticed when you came back from Mexico, you had no tan.”

I said, “My goodness.” I started taking Bones and Brains on April 20. I went to Mexico on May, the 29. So, it would have been about 5 weeks.

As I began to think about this thing, Bones and Brains is a new product that we’ve developed. I really can’t say we develop. The company makes it but I didn’t develop it. It was spoken by God. He was the one who gathered the whole formulation, even the name.

The name came from our national marketing director and he said that in the middle of the night, God just woke him up and spoke to him, Bones and Brains. When he told me that, I said, I knew that was the name of the product.

So, it began with spiritual effort, the spiritual God even named it. The Latin named it. It’s under the heal quick Latin name. My mother spoke that name. It came from one source after another but as I began to think about it, anything that is causing my skin not to react to the sun --

See here, you all know I am a nature fellow. I would lay out in the sun, staying, I walk, hike because I like the sun. I understand the true health benefit of the vitamin D and the other stuff that it produces, so I will stay in the sun a very, very long time.

There is a lot scientific fear about staying in the sun and that can be a problem because the sun or sunlight catalyzes a lot of different chemical reactions. And you got mess in your body, yes, it will cause all kind of cancer, all kind of issues and all kind of wrinkles.

I have been the sun all of my life. My daddy used to stay in the sun a lot so I got that from him. But for the last few weeks, since I have been taking Bones and Brains, my skin has absolutely not tanned at all.

As I thought about it, even when I was at the training with my son and I have this little bitty line that I could barely see, that was gone in a day or two.

So, whatever was happening and I realized some things, I see, "God has spoken to me." At 58-years-old, which was a year ago and I am halfway, meaning that I can live 116 but I knew in order to live through 116, there got to be some real powerful stuff happen, because the oldest documented man in the world died a few months ago and he was only 112. There's some woman lived longer than that but not man. So, I said to God, "You're telling me I can live 4 years longer than the oldest documented man in the world?"

Some got to be different, because my generics are just not that strong. My daddy had a heart attack at 45. Some folk just got the unclear generics, they're holding nothing further. That's not me. So, I knew in order for me to live to be 116-years-old, I got to have some kind of ace. Something got to be different because even all the help here, they don't make it that long. They just don't. Jack LaLanne who was the founder of those strict vegetarian super health, he died at 98. I said, "My goodness, you're talking about me living 18 years longer than Jack LaLanne, good grief." So, I knew that in order to do that, something got to be different, I'm a preacher, I'm a spiritual man, but I'm no scientist. I know logic and numerical equivalence and statistical stuff and I knew that serious.

But I thought about it and for those who know the underlying biblical history, man live all these 100 of years when Methuselah lived 969 or and Noah for 800 years. All these long living men, Noah didn't even have his three sons until he was 500. How did these folks live all this long time? What happened? But you noticed after the flood, the lifespan of man dropped to 120. In the New Testament, it dropped to 70, which is where we are now. What was it that changed the lifespan of man from living 700, 800, 900 years to 120?

When the flood came, the vapor cloud collapse. The earth was surrounded by a vapor cloud. It did not rain. Water came up in the mist. They have never seen rain before because the earth was surrounded by the vapor cloud. The vapor cloud filtered out the UV radiation from the sun that causes DNA to change as we get older and the people lived multiple times of what we live now.

So, I thought about it. If Bones and Brains is causing my skin -- Anybody who's around me, they didn't know, I am extreme. I don't deny that. I am extreme. I don't just stay out in the sun for 5 minutes, I am extreme. If it's causing my skin, which normally would darken and react quite a bit to the sun. It is not reacting at all. If this thing working like the vapor cloud.

So, you have to understand even the science of why you tan in the first place. You tan because if sun hits your skin, it causes you to produce more melanin. Melanin is the chemical of a substance that causes people of color, African-Americans, Black people, everyone has melanin but black people have melanin more than normal and that's what give you your skin tone. So, as you are exposed to the sun, the body produces more melanin in response to the sun to keep the sun from damaging the skin. When you got sunburned, the skin has actually been damaged.

And the other thing I noticed, normally, when I lay out in the sun that long under that kind of intense sun, not only has my skin color changed tremendously, it becomes tendered because it's sun burned. There was no tenderness, there was no color change. So, if it is doing that, it may be the factor, then in addition to the other health practices, this is going to let me make it to 116.

So, I had to tell you all that because some of you all have some health issues.

Now, Bones and Brains was actually developed, it is called the all-in-one anti-aging formula. It was developed for 3 basics things that it does which is Bones. Some of you as you get older, your bones are creaking, popping, braking, brittle and all kinds of stuff. So, it was developed for bones. It developed for brains. As you get older, your memory goes -- you can't hear from memo stuff, clarity of thought is not that good. And the other thing that it does, it helps digestion tremendously. For those who have irritable bowel syndrome, ulcers, all that kind of stuff.

It was designed for those 3 areas that usually go along with as you start to get up and age. Now, getting up an age is beyond 35. I had no idea that it would literarily affect skin. Now, when the body can resist and not change to intense sun, it also means that it will not wrinkle.

A lot of folk then concerned about getting old. They are concerned about looking old. It changes skin and it changes resistance to skin. It is not an inexpensive product because it is not inexpensive to meet.

But when God does something and when you follow of what he says to do, you usually get a lot more than you figured on. You all know, I don't even talk about any product. You all probably haven't heard me talk about a product in 10 years but it just shook and amazed me.

I have a convertible. I drove all day yesterday with my top down. Sun just beat me down, there is 90 something degree, there is no color change. Normally, just driving with the top down for an hour will darken and tan my skin considerably, but there was no color change. So, I could hardly believe it.

But when God does something, there will be stuff happening. You just don't believe. So, Bones and Brains is the name of the product and I think some of you all can use it and it will help you the few people we have had -- who's been on it, they have noticed all 3 of those areas, they noticed change in. They noticed change in their bones. They've noticed changed in their clarity of though. They've noticed changed in their digestion.

They've noticed changes in all three. I would not have noticed the change in my skin if someone else had noticed that I was not tanning.

So, it changes resistance to the sun. I believe that it will be one of the factors that will help me make it through 116 because I did realize that I got to have something else. To make it to that, I know what you said, I got to have something else. That may be to something else, and it may be the restoration of the vapor cloud, Bones and Brains.

If some of you all, if this hits you, you all need to try it. It was 5 weeks between when I started Bones and Brains and when I went to Mexico. So, try it for 5 or 6 weeks and then just go out in the sun and see what happens. If your skin doesn't change, if you don't tan, you know it is working for you. If you don't react to the sun, it means that you are also not reacting to the detrimental UV radiation that occurs that you have to make a lot of melanin to protect yourself from.

My guess is it will seriously extend your life because that wasn't even part of the benefit that we planned for in the product. Bones and Brains, for those of you who are 35 and older and may need a little extra boost.

Bow your heads. Dear heavenly Father, we thank you today for just all of the stuff that you do in our lives. All of the things. All of the revelation. All of the protection. All of the advancement. Even all of the load that you put on our shoulders yet you strengthen us to carry it. Father, we just thank you for this day. I thank you for every person within the sound of my voice and I pray that you take control of my mind, heart, spirit and every word that I shall speak for this entire and even the rest of my days. I pray that you open the hearts and minds of the people that they should receive until to them this day, that which you shall have them to know. In thy son, Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Wow, he just -- even that which you've already spoken will bring some people additional life and health. And I know, sometimes, if you talk about a product, people think it's all about money. If there is one thing you all have learned about me. I'm not in this church for money. I have been speaking here for 21 years, I didn't make a dime. I am not in this church for money. It is not

about the money. We don't make money at 42, hardly. Any of those programs up there, we just don't make money off of, but it helps to change people's lives.

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So, I hope you can feel my hardened spirit in it. I am not trying to sell you a product, I'm just really not. Because I'm not going to make that much money selling to you product anyhow. I'm just not, that's just a reality. They're not going to make me any financial difference, I'm just not.

But I'm not going put this product in the bookstore here at one-penny discount. It's \$42 above. I'm not going to let it be one-penny discount. My mother bought the first box, and goes says, "You have to sell it to her, you can't give it to her." And my mother says, "I'm glad to pay for it, because I understand the principle behind it." So, it's not going to be \$41.99. It's a full \$42, it's not going to be discounted one single penny. He even spoke the price. So, when he spoke the price, that's what it calls it. And I have learned God has a reason.

Do you know how much it cost to be sick? Do you know how much it cost to be sick? I mean, I'm not even talking about the doctor because a lot of you got insurance. I'm just talking about the cost you pay in pain and fear and the stress of it all. Do you know how much it cost to be sick?

Do you know how much it cost to smoke? I mean, just think about it, do you know how much it cost to smoke? How much is the pack of cigarettes now? I know in New York it's about \$10.00 a pack. So how much is the cigarette? Five dollars and you got a two-pack of cigarettes a day, you spent \$10.00 a day on cigarettes, you spent \$300.00 a month on cigarettes folks are going to complain about that. The number one kill in the country. And they spend for \$300.00 a month for cigarettes. It kills you and you know it kills you.

And you fuss about, "Oh! It takes \$42 that may save your life." So, is not going to be one penny off a discount, because the folks get the money to buy whatever they want to. I've learned that, they get to money about whatever they want to.

So, if God has sent something and commanded the price of, but

I'm going to it, period, because I just understand some things, but whatever has for you, it's always a blessing, people. It's always a blessing. Even when it looks like it's conflict. And some other things here command you to do, some of you are in the middle of 42 right now, it costs to do 42, it really does.

And sometimes even the money, because even the pure food cost more than mess. You can go to fast food and get you a full of meal for \$3.99. It cost to eat healthy but, did you know how much it cost to be sick?

I don't want no sickness testimony, I just don't. It is good to have, but want to wield this testimony. I never been in a hospital. I have never been on any medicine. I have never had an operation. I don't want any damn testimonies. So, it's good if you've been carried through it all, it's good. But you can keep that one. I don't want it. So, I want to do this stuff, so that I'd never have to go through it.

Now sometimes, even doing all the right stuff, stuff can still happen, I understand that. But 9 out of 10 times, you are not doing all the right stuff. That stuff got an actual earthly natural cost.

So, I don't want a recovery testimony. I want a testimony that I have been kept that God has kept me. But he told me stuff to do. He does not just kept me by saying, "Boy, you will just live to your 100s." I said, "No, there's some stuff I got to do." And the older I get, the more it is. So, it's stuff I got to do.

And that sometimes the differences between the Pope Christians and the Christians who are doing extremely well, they understand there is a man part. Pope Christian try to let God do it all, and you go have all this myth. So God does not going to do it all for you, that just not his word. You got a part, and He always says, "To those who obey my commandments, these are things that shall come to them. And to those who disobey, these are things," and there are three times as many curses enumerated in the Bible is blessed." From God's word, "three times as many."

So, people, these are just things that can bless you, and they'll change your life. And it's not about a product. Most of the stuff is just natural because, we want sometimes, our traumas and

appeal that doesn't happen. You got to a whole lot of other stuff to keep your health in good shape, you just do. Now some of you got just eye on genetics and nothing is going to happen to you. I also believe that your spirit is strong enough.

The Bible says, you can eat any deadly thing and it will not harm you. The problem is I can't do it. And God says, "Don't you teach people anything you can't do. I can't do it. I eat this deadly stuff, my skin break out, all kind of stuff happen.

00:20:02

I can't do it, but I do believe it is possible if your spirit is high enough, but it's possible for you walk on water if your spirit is high enough. I can't walk on water. I think, but I know how to swim, that's why I did on hundred laps. I know how to swim. So, if you can't walk on water, you need to know how to swim. And don't you be waiting out in the deep and you can't walk on water and you can't swim.

So, bottom line, I believe it's possible. I just can't do it. I just can't do it. All of the pastors practice extremely rigorous health regiment. Every single one of us do. We are not waiting on God to this stuff for us.

Ask C. Elijah how much fresh juice he drinks every day. Ask him how many times he goes to the gym every week. Ask Pastor James about his program. Ask me about my health program. We are not waiting on God to just keep us in on good shape. No, because there are too many sick Christians who believe. But I can't do it. and I don't want a sickness testimony, I just don't. It's good if you're sick, Lord, have mercy, you need it. But I don't want to go through that. I want to be 115-years-old and stand before the churches and say, "I never been to the doctor with a sickness. I have never been on any medicine and I never been under the knife." That's what I want to be to testify the folks.

And I believe that if I follow God, C. Elijah was preaching Thursday, and I was in the airport. So, I was listening on my phone, walking to the airport as he was talking. He talked about the lady whose 90 something years old. She told, "I'm doing home on a certain date, at a certain time". And she said at that time, she just went on. And I take C. Elijah in, I'm leaving in 1:16 to 7:42 PM. But it's not just speaking it. All

right, you got do some stuff, unless you have enough faith to where you can command every person not to harm you. And it's possible, just as it is to walk on the water. But if your faith is not at that level and I'll be honest, mine is not, I just can't do it. If I do stuff wrong, I feel it, and it affects me, I can't do it.

Some of you may be able to do it. I can't. And the vast maturity of preacher cannot do it. You pan the effects a wrong living. So, if you don't want be effects of wrong living, we got to do what we need to do to keep us together.

Thank you for joining today at Brothers of The World, because brother, you need the word.

And today, we are at part two of the series called "Endurance". Part 1 was "The Endurance to Basically Get Started". And today, "The Endurance to Keep Going". And if you don't endure doing the right thing, if you don't endure doing the right thing, you must endure the consequences of the wrong thing.

So, I want to make it clear to you right now, endurance is not just hanging in through going to through bad or tough times. Endurance is also the endurance to do the right thing, so you don't have to endure the results of the wrong thing.

So, we need to first of all make sure we are doing the right thing. I'll be speaking from the New Living Translations today. James Chapter 1, second verse, Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow, so, let it grow. For when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.

Paul stated, count it all joy when you ran into divers' temptations. Just count it all joy. James says that, when troubles come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. For you know when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow.

So, my point about it was when I started off the statement, even when you are going to tough times, you learn how to rejoice in it but you also need ask yourself, "What am I doing to call these tough times? If I'm doing something, let me change what I'm

doing.” So, let me just keep rejoicing, getting the same thing over and over and over. If you know that mister good boss calls you to have a headache, don’t you just sit here, “I’m going to rejoice in this headache.” No, you started being the mister good boss.

So, that’s the difference between wisdom, because if the same things recurring over and over and over and over, you need to do something to change it. But there are some things people we endure, and we must endure, God will send us through some test, to train us and to build our faith and to build our patience.

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That was a man whose life was characterized by failure. At the Age of 22, his business failed. At 23, he ran for the legislature but was defeated. So, he turned to another business, that business failed. Then at 24, it failed again. At 25, things started to turn around when he was elected to the legislature but at 26, his love of his life died. Then, he had a nervous breakdown at 27. He was defeated in his run for the speaker of the house at 29. He was defeated at 31 when he ran for the electric. He lost in his run for congress at 34. But he managed to win at 37. He was defeated in his re-election for congress at 39.

He was defeated in his run for the senator at 46. He was defeated in his run for vice-presidency at 47. He was defeated for run for the senate at 49. He was stubborn as a mule and he kept on trying. He kept on enduring. And he was defeated over and over and over and over again until finally, at the age of 51, he was elected President of the United States. That man was Abraham Lincoln. All of these trials and tribulations, all of these defeats, and yet he kept on going.

I remember when I had started my business and I had been in my own business for couple of years, and I had a person come up to me and he said, “Mr. Bronner, I want to invest in your business.” And I really didn’t want any investors. And in particular, I didn’t want that investor. I understood very well then, it makes a difference who you partner with. I didn’t want to go into business partnership with them. So, I told him, “I wasn’t looking for any investors. I didn’t want any investors.” I said, “But why would you want to invest in my business? I said, “Look haven’t made any money, as a matter of fact, these last

couple of years, I've lost money. Why did you want to invest in my business?" And they said, "Because I know you. And you're not going to quit until you succeed." He said, "I don't want to invest in your business, I want to invest in you." They would've made a wise investment.

The point is, people, regardless of what happens, don't quit. Don't quit. You've got to have the endurance to keep going.

A man who had hitch hiked from coast to coast and he'd walk many miles on a process, he walked all the way from New York to California and he was asked what did he find the most difficult thing to endure. He thought, was it the steep mountains you had to go across or the blazing sun and the scorching desert heat that really got you down. And said, "No, not any of that." So, what was it? He said it was the sand in my shoe.

You know, sometimes when we go through what I will call big traumas in life, we have someone close to us die, we have a major illness, we have a major financial failure. We can get through sometimes all of that kind of stuff, because in truth, that kind of stuff knocks us to our knees and it actually brings us closer to Jesus. It's the little bitty everyday things, the sand in the shoe that really causes us so many people to move away from Christ. Your co-worker that just -- or you, the little bitty things that's an -- it's the sand in the shoe kind of -- not a major stuff. The sand in the shoe that will often cause us to lose our Christian walk as we make the journey.

Malcolm Muggeridge, contrary to what might be expected to see, I looked back on the experiences that at the time seemed especially desolate and distressful and painful. You see, I looked back on those experiences with particular satisfaction. Indeed, I can say with complete truth for this, that everything I've learned in my long years in this world, everything that has truly enhanced and enlightened my experience has been through affliction and not through happiness.

Do you know the stuff that really makes you grow? Usually, it's tough. It's like that in school. The classes that you really learned the most from, they are not fresh air classes. They're the stuff you got to struggle through, the stuff where no one seems to like the professor because they are so tough. But when you come out

of that class, you've learned something.

My business' failures have thought me more than my business' successes. I have grown spiritually far more through the stuff I thought I was lacking than the abundance. So, I agree with Malcolm in that situation. I've learned and I've grown a whole lot more through pain than I have through just a stuff that are just so joyous and so nice, so easy and you're so happy with.

00:30:06

I've grown a whole lot more through pain. See, as a mechanic, you learn a lot more to stuff that's broken down than stuff just running right. I've learned some situation on mechanics and engineering where I just have stuff just bust and go all to pieces. I had the figure, I have learned a lot more through trouble and tribulation than I have learned to when things are smooth. And that's why when we have proper attitude, we can endure some things that other people will simply give up on.

Wilma didn't get much of a head start in life. About with polio, left her left leg crooked and her foot twisted in with so she had to wear leg braces. After seven years of painful therapy, she could walk without braces. At age 12, Wilma tried out for girls' basketball team but didn't make it. Determined, she practiced with a girl friend and two boys every day. The next year, she made the team. When a college track coach saw her doing a game, he talked her into letting him train her as a runner. By age fourteen, she had outrun the fastest sprinters in America. In 1956, Wilma made the US Olympic team but show poorly. That bitter disappointment motivated her to work harder for the 1960 Olympics in Rome. And there, Wilma Rudolph won three gold medals, the most woman had ever won, started with polio.

Polio is a crippling disease, so she went from braces. That was the movie, Forrest Gump, that was similar to that. She went from braces. See, most people with polio was -- "I got polio. The Lord has dealt me a bitter peal. The Lord has dealt me some bad stuff in life and I will never be able to do anything but just shuffle alone, crippled for the rest of my days." People, if you endure doing the right thing, you can become a world champion at anything you want to do but God is what you start off with. But you have to have the determination and you have to have the ability to endure through some tough circumstances to truly

win.

In 1990, Georgene Johnson of Cleveland Ohio, was a bit depressed after Jess turning 42. She decided she wanted to be in better shape for the second half of her life so Georgene began exercising, been jogging, been running. A lot of the stories relate even just to sports. She decided that what she really needed was a goal on which to focus. So, she entered herself in a 10k which is about 6-miles race and began training.

The day of the race, she was pumped up and ready to go. She arrived early and was soon distracted by all of the other runners as they prepped and stretched. Before she knew it, the horn sounded for the runners to line up and Georgene followed the pack to the starting line and they were off.

Four miles into the race, with no turnaround in sight because they would normally run 3.1-mile turnaround and come back. Four miles into the race with no turnaround in sight, Georgene asked a fellow runner when could she expect to start heading back, and he just kind of looked at a stranger and said, "Are you for real?" It was then that he explained she was not running the 10k six-mile race. She was running the marathon which was 26 miles. Both racers share the same finish line but the 10k was set to start 15 minutes after the marathon. Because she was early and distracted, she landed up too soon. So, she just kept running looking for someone to help.

26 miles later, she crossed the finish line. Her previous longest race was just eight miles and when she was asked what went through her mind as she faced this challenge of really training and preparing to run a six-mile race yet having to run a 26-mile race and says, "What went through your mind?" And this is what she said, "This is not the race I trained for. This is not the race I entered. But for better or worse, this is the race I'm in."

Some of you all are in some situations right now and is not what you planned for. This is not what I stand up on a dotted line for. I didn't sign up on this. Some of you have been in some situation and you know, when you took the vows, for better or for worse, you'll say, "No, no. I didn't know to go get this bad. No. I didn't sign up for this." She says, "Not the race I've trained for. It's not the race I signed up for. But for better or for worse, this is the race I'm in." So, people, your life, where you

are right now, for better or for worse, that's the race you are in.

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And you got a choice. You can stop. You can give up. You can sit down. Or you can keep putting one foot in front of the other, giving it all you've got. If you do that, you will make the finish line.

I want you to just think about this statement that C.H. Spurgeon said, especially with this church named being the Arch of Salvation. He says, "By perseverance, the snail reached the arc." You know, half of that snail can get to the arc. There would be animals, the lions and the cheetahs and the dogs, they could just -- it was half of that snail to reach the arc. But by perseverance, the snail reached the arc.

Napoleon said, "The first virtue in a soldier is endurance of fatigue, courage is only the second virtue." Because sometimes, you got to go through some long tough stuff before you even get to the fight. And if you give up before you get to it, you lose.

Hebrews chapter 12, beginning of the first verse, "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses, to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sand that so easily trips us up, and let us run with endurance the race guard has set before us."

We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith. Because of the joy awaiting him, he endured the cross disregarding its shame. Now He is seated in the place of honor before God's throne. Think of all the hostility he endured from sinful people then you won't become weary and give up. After all, you have not yet given your lives and your struggle against sin.

Think what Jesus had to endure but he knew the reward at the end. Now people, sometimes going through some of these stuff in life, it can make you say "I just want to quit, I just want to walk away from it, I just want to sit down, I'm tired, I've been beat, I didn't sign up for this, I didn't know this was coming, this has come out of -- I'm just tired of this and I'm quitting."

And I have seen just in life, just people getting fatigued and

giving up has caused more death and destruction and all the areas of life to almost anything else, not even the devil, just for giving up and quitting.

We have an exercise class here Monday, Thursday, and Saturday at 6 PM and I see the pattern just with the Ringo max exercise class. Sometimes, folks will come one time. That's started. That's the endurance to start, but they come one time or maybe two times, you don't ever see them again. You don't ever see them again because that class is rough. It strains you but you will not build strong muscles with easy stuff.

You will not build your faith. You will not build your spirit. You will not build your character with easy stuff. It takes some tough stuff and we just want to back out of life. "Lord don't give me into the tough stuff." What disciple, and where in the Bible do you ever find anybody who does anything or significance and didn't go through some tough stuff and didn't hang in there? Where did you find that out? It's not in the word at all.

As a matter of fact, Jesus promises you that "if you follow me, you won't go to persecution and you won't be hated by all nations." So, if you don't have the ability to endure some things, you really can't follow Christ. You need to be able to endure.

On the commercial flight to Boston in the summer of 1987, the pilot heard a strange noise near the rear of the plane. Henry Dempsey was the pilot. He turned the controls over to his co-pilot and went to check what was happening. When he got to the back of the plane, the plane hit an air pocket and it bumped, and he found out what was making the noise. The rear door had not been properly latched and the rear door flew open and he was sucked out of the plane.

So, the co-pilot saw the rear light go on to see the rear door open, and the stewardess ran up and said, "The pilot has just been sucked out." He radioed in and he asked for them to send a helicopter to search the ocean to find his body, and they were making an emergency landing because the rear door was opened. He landed at Boston airport, and when he landed, they found that the pilot had been sucked out of the plane. But you know, some of the older planes, they have a rear door that you exit. He had grabbed on to the ladder and when the plane landed, he was still hanging onto the ladder. And the news

report said that it took several minutes for all the rescue personnel to pry his fingers off of that ladder.

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This man hung on in the cold and the plane going several hundred miles an hour, all the wind blowing, this man was just hanging on. When it came down and landed, it was busted because the door was opened. This man knew that if he let go, he would die.

So, people, I'll tell you that when stuff happens, when the door blew opened, when you hit an air pocket, and there's rocket and the wind, and all of the stuff is happening, it is cold, you are freezing, and this man's hand had to be tied, and I don't know what, you're going through all this stuff, I just tell you to grab a hold and hang on don't let go. You keep on holding on. You keep enduring to the end. You don't let anything stop you. You don't let anything make you give up into all of this because the race goes not to the weak, not to the strong, but to those who can endure to the end.

Thank you for joining us today at BrothersfTheWord because brother, you need the word. Amen.

I'll just ask you right now to stand and raise your hand and grab onto Jacob's ladder. And this is the ladder to Christ that will take us to the gold and take us to eternal life. And don't you let the winds of life, the buffeting of life tear you from the ladder that takes you up.

Dear heavenly father, in the name of Jesus. Father, I thank you for the ladder you have given us even in disastrous times in our sight. And it is even you who have sent many of these circumstances into our worlds to develop our patience and our endurance. Thank you, Father. Father, give us the clarity of mind and strength of spirit, that we shall be able to find joy in all of the circumstances of life, and we shall never let go of thy hand. In thy son, Jesus' name, we pray, Amen.

Female:

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