

Singing the Song of Victory!

But thanks be to God, Who in Christ always leads us in triumph [as trophies of Christ's victory] and through us spreads and makes evident the fragrance of the knowledge of God everywhere. 2 Corinthians 2:14 The Amplified

Dealing with the chaos of life, it isn't too difficult to wind up missing out on many of the really great parts that we had every intention of enjoying. Thinking back to some of our earlier days, I can remember times when Shelby and I had planned special birthday celebrations for each of our boys. Our goal, one shared by so many other parents, was simply to show our kids a great time and let them know how much we love them. However, by the halfway mark of many of those evenings, at least one of us could invariably be found lying beneath a table in the fetal position at the local Chucky Cheese store while the other ran around the room looking like an escapee from a mental institute. To this day, I'm not certain anybody actually enjoyed themselves at these events. Oh, the birthday child would carry home a truck load of new gadgetry that would require at least 48 hours to either break or lose and we would eventually pay off the debt that the evening would incur, but did we really enjoy the celebration?

It's not that anything in particular went wrong, either. Everything was quite normal. We required no police presence and emergency personnel were ever called upon. The only sirens that sounded were those that are constantly polluting the air waves at every Chucky Cheese in the country. It was just the average level of chaos that you can count on experiencing when you step into that particular environment.

In actuality, we got exactly what we had paid for. Expecting anything different would have been insanity on our part.

Life happens to be the same way. Expecting anything less would be insanity. Life isn't going to suddenly come to a constant calm that out-lives and out-lasts our existence. Life is a battlefield, not a recreation room. But even in the recreation room there is space for much chaos. It only takes a few minutes at the above mentioned pizza factory to prove my point. The real point is that our goal shouldn't be to eliminate all chaos, but to capitalize on every experience life offers us. If we're not paying attention, it isn't only at birthday parties that we'll allow ourselves to get so busy attempting to bring the madness to an end that we'll miss out on the sweetness hidden within the middle.

2 Corinthians 2:14 may have something hidden in the middle, as well. It says, "Thanks be unto God, who always leads us in triumph!" Now we all know what the word "always" means! There isn't a situation or circumstance too big for our God. One of the great benefits of walking with God is that it's never difficult to determine when a season has come to an end. How do we know? We find ourselves standing in the winner's circle!

I want you to notice something else about this powerful statement, as well. This verse says that it is God, Himself, who leads us in triumph. If you do a word study on the word "triumph" you'll learn that this is the Greek word "thriambeuo." This word means to sing a song of victory. Think about that for just a moment! This verse can be stated this way; "Thanks be unto God, who is leading us right now in the song of victory!"

I don't know what you're right now looks like, but I do know what it sounds like! And I also know that your right now is very much a part of your always. God isn't leading us in triumph from time to time, but He always leads us in the song of victory!

Open the ears of your spirit and intently listen and you'll hear it for yourself! The song of victory being sung over you by the Creator, Himself, right in the middle of whatever it is that you're going through.

Chances are, today won't turn out much different from any other day. There will be giants to face, mountains to climb and maybe even a birthday party or two to plan. Whether you're searching for smooth stones, reaching new summits or filling balloons with hot air, take time to stop and listen. As a matter of fact, take time to join in. God is leading us in the song of victory ... we should probably open our mouth and sing along.

We believe in you!

Pastors Thom and Shelby