

Don't Sink Swim

Week 1 Stagger Not

Romans 4: **18** Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, "So shall your offspring be."^d **19** Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead—since he was about a hundred years old—and that Sarah's womb was also dead. **20** Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, **21** being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised. **22** This is why "it was credited to him as righteousness."

18 Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed

God Vision

Sees the invisible
Believes the impossible
Never gives up

Touches the Intangible

King James puts it

20 He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; **21** And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform. **22** And therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness.

Stagger not at the Promise!

Story of Abraham

stagger

walk or move unsteadily, as if about to fall.

"he staggered to his feet, swaying a little"

lurch, walk

unsteadily, reel, sway, teeter, totter, stumble, wobble, move
clumsily, weave, flounder, falter, pitch, roll

astonish or deeply shock.

astonish, amaze, nonplus, startle, astound, surprise, bewilder,
stun, flabbergast, shock, shake,

stop someone in their tracks, stupefy, leave open-
mouthed, take someone's breath away

Are you staggering at His plans for you?

Week 2 Choke Not

1 Corinthians 3:1 Brothers and sisters, I could not address you as people who live by the Spirit but as people who are still worldly—mere infants in Christ. 2I gave you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it. Indeed, you are still not ready. 3You are still worldly. For since there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not worldly? Are you not acting like mere humans?

A what point do you choke?

Where is the point where you say God won't do that for me?

Where is the point where you that's too extreme for you?

Where is the point that you get offended

Hebrews 5:12 In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God's word all over again. You need milk, not solid food! 13Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. 14But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.

Infants still live by the Law

Mature Children know their fathers heart

They live to please their father because of a love relationship.

Week 3 Don't Paddle, Swim

There is a place you can come to in God that is deeper than you have ever known

Christians tell me they don't feel the closeness of God like they did

One said they once feasted on the stake now not sure where they are. Not backslidden but not where they need to be

Holy Spirit told me many eating comfort

In the winter times of life you may need to stay safe and warm eat comfort food but there comes a time to get back out there and live again

Life begins at the end of your comfort zone

Don't Paddle, Swim

Ezekiel 47¹⁻² Now he brought me back to the entrance to the Temple. I saw water pouring out from under the Temple porch to the east (the Temple faced east). The water poured from the south side of the Temple, south of the altar. He then took me out through the north gate and led me around the outside to the gate complex on the east. The water was gushing from under the south front of the Temple.

3-5 He walked to the east with a measuring tape and measured off fifteen hundred feet, leading me through water that was ankle-deep. He measured off another fifteen hundred feet, leading me through water that was knee-deep. He measured off another fifteen hundred feet, leading me through water waist-deep. He measured off another fifteen hundred feet. By now it was a river over my head, water to swim in, water no one could possibly walk through.

Walking into the waves

(A) Ankle Deep

3-5 He walked to the east with a measuring tape and measured off fifteen hundred feet, leading me through water that was ankle-deep.

Ankles mean you walk has begun

Just begun to enter in

At least you're in the water

It feels fresh

You're still in control you decide where to go

You can be on dry land in seconds

Psalm 42: 7 Deep calls to deep in the roar of your waterfalls; all your waves and breakers have swept over me. 8By day the Lord directs his love, at night his song is with me— a prayer to the God of my life.

- (A) Ankle Deep
- (B) Knee Deep

Knees speak of service and strength

Every believer needs to walk into the place of service and strength in God

It takes effort to walk in water at knee level

There is more effort required but not much more enjoyment

Many are stuck at this level and before long your walk becomes tiring maybe even resentful against those who are just paddling

Psalm 27:8 *When thou saidst, Seek ye my face; my heart said unto thee, Thy face, LORD, will I seek.*

- (A) Ankle Deep
- (B) Knee Deep
- (C) Waste Deep

Ezekiel 47 4: He measured off another fifteen hundred feet, leading me through water waist-deep.

King James Says *the waters were to the loins.*

Loins in the bible speaks of multiplication.

**Making disciples, mentoring and bearing fruit.
Soul winning being a father or mother in God.**

- (D) Waters to swim in

Ezekiel 47:5 By now it was a river over my head, water to swim in, water no one could possibly walk through.

Speaks of total surrender to the Spirit of God. Being swept away in the Spirit.

No longer in control!

The river takes you where it is going not where you want to go.

No firm ground beneath your feet.

The river is a place of

(A) Revelation

Habakkuk 2:14 For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

When you in so deep you have to swim you discover who God is.

This river consumes you, directs you propels you forward in God and in life

No chance of dipping in and out.

(B) Refuge

As the deer pants for the water

Psalm 42:1 {To the chief Musician, Maschil, for the sons of Korah.} As the hart (Deer) panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God. 2My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God: when shall I come and appear before God?

You pant when running or in anguish and fear. Short shallow breaths

The dear when being pursed would head for deep waters knowing it is a place of safety.

(C) Refreshing

Psalm 46: 4 There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells

When did you experience something new in God?

Surely we haven't had all that God has for us!

Rev 22: 1 Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb 2down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. 3No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him.

- (A) Ankle Deep**
- (B) Knee Deep**
- (C) Waste Deep**
- (D) Waters to swim in**

John 7: 37 On the last and greatest day of the festival, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. 38Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them."^c 39By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified