

The Climb – Part 7 Climbing Partners!

When Jesus saw his ministry drawing huge crowds, he climbed a hillside. **Those who were apprenticed to him, the committed, climbed with him.** Arriving at a quiet place, he sat down and taught his climbing companions.

Matthew 5:1-2 (MSG)

Recap

- Sober assessment.
- We have to start.
- Make course corrections.
- We need wisdom that builds patience.
- We need discipline that gives us focus.
- We need self-control that produces safeguards.
 - Connecting with God.
 - Honesty with yourself.
 - Vulnerability with others.

For we were slaves, but in his unfailing love our God did not abandon us in our slavery. Instead, he caused the kings of Persia to treat us favorably. He revived us so we could rebuild the Temple of our God and repair its ruins. **He has given us a protective wall in Judah and Jerusalem.**

Ezra 9:9 (NLT)

- One of the greatest keys to the climb, is to receive help from others and to offer help to others.

A man who isolates himself seeks his own desire; he rages against all wise judgment.

Proverbs 18:1 (NKJV)

Whoever pulls away from others to focus solely on his own desires disregards any sense of sound judgment.

Proverbs 18:1 (VOICE)

You need: God's presence, God's promises & God's people!

Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But someone who falls alone is in real trouble. Likewise, two people lying close together can keep each other warm. But how can one be warm alone? A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer. Three are even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken.

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 (NLT)

There Are Three Types OF Climbing Partners We All Need:

1. We need prayer partners.

Then I said, "O LORD, God of heaven, the great and awesome God who keeps his covenant of unfailing love with those who love him and obey his commands, listen to my prayer! Look down and see me praying night and day for your people Israel. I confess that we have sinned against you. Yes, even my own family and I have sinned!"

Nehemiah 1:5-6 (NLT)

We don't just put up with our limitations; we celebrate them, and then go on to celebrate every strength, every triumph of the truth in you. **We pray hard** that it will all come together in your lives.

2 Corinthians 13:9 (MSG)

Night and day **we continue praying** with all our heart that we can see you again and give you all the things you need to make your faith strong.

1 Thessalonians 3:10 (NCV)

Application: Who Is Your Prayer Partner?

2. We need a truth partner.

A truly good friend will openly correct you. You can trust a friend who corrects you, but kisses from an enemy are nothing but lies.

Proverbs 27:5-6 (CEV)

The slap of a friend can be trusted to help you, but the kisses of an enemy are nothing but lies.

Proverbs 27:6 (NCV)

Then Nathan said to David, "You are the man!"

2 Samuel 12:7a (NKJV)

Three Things Important In Confrontation:

- Tears.
- Timing.
- Trust.

Application: Who Is Your Truth Partner?

3. We need encouraging partner.

We kept at it, repairing and rebuilding the wall. The whole wall was soon joined together and halfway to its intended height because the people had a heart for the work.

Nehemiah 4:6 (MSG)

Then the people of Judah began to complain, "The workers are getting tired, and there is so much rubble to be moved. We will never be able to build the wall by ourselves."
Nehemiah 4:10 (NLT)

Therefore, when we could no longer endure it, we thought it good to be left in Athens alone, and sent Timothy, our brother and minister of God, and our fellow laborer in the gospel of Christ, to establish you and encourage you concerning your faith, that no one should be shaken by these afflictions; for you yourselves know that we are appointed to this.
1 Thessalonians 3:1-3 (NKJV)

Application: Who Is My Encouraging Partner?

***Then Moses climbed Mount Nebo** from the plains of Moab to the top of Pisgah, across from Jericho. **There the Lord showed him the whole land—from Gilead to Dan**, all of Naphtali, the territory of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Mediterranean Sea, the Negev and the whole region from the Valley of Jericho, the City of Palms, as far as Zoar. Then the Lord said to him, "This is the land I promised on oath to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob when I said, 'I will give it to your descendants. **I have let you see it with your eyes, but you will not cross over into it.**'"*
Deuteronomy 34:1-4 (NIV)