



Are You an Overcomer?

Or a

Hanger -Inner

""For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith."

1 John 5:4 (NAS)

Do you really feel confident that you will overcome the problems and challenges to your marriage, or do you feel like the problems are forming themselves into a giant snowball at the top of the mountain above you, and as you feel the earth begin trembling beneath your feet you realize you are about to be overcome? Where is this victory that's supposed to overcome the world?

As John said, it's our faith. It's our faith in the person of Jesus Christ. It's knowing that He is in control. It's knowing that even if the snowball comes rolling over me, I'll get right back up again and continue my walk with Him. Let the snowball come. I overcome it by His Spirit working in me. Sure, I may get knocked down, but I'll never be knocked out. The only thing these problems may accomplish is to validate my share in the Kingdom. Jesus tells us, "To him who overcomes I will give the right to eat of the tree of life..."(Rev. 2:7b) Unfortunately, we can't be over comers without stuff to overcome.

Do our marriage problems look like that snowball coming down that mountain? Then it's time to build our faith in Him. Don't even try to stop that coming snowball -or avalanche- without a solid confidence in His faithfulness to help overcome, anger with kindness, selfishness with grace, anxiety with peace, frustration with hope, and everything else with pure, unadulterated love. Resolve in your own heart to never again answer the question, "How are you?" with the answer, "Hanging in there." You were never called to be a "hanger-inner." You were called to be an overcomer. You can only do it with His power working in and through you. So get plugged in to Christ. Let the power of the Holy Spirit surge through you. Then bring on the snowballs; bring on the avalanche. You'll just grow stronger with every one you overcome. Then, give Him the praise!

Question for both of us: Do we feel like over comers, or do we feel like we're being overcome? Why?

Prayer for both of us: Lord, help us to change our mindset from "hanging in there" to "overcoming". Help us learn to grow through our problems together, so that what the enemy of our marriage sends to divide us will actually cause us to close ranks against him. We will overcome him together, and grow stronger. Grow our faith in your boundless goodness and mercy.

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