

“Enduring the Storms of Life”

Max Lucado tells a story about when he was living in Florida, owned a boat, and a terrible storm was coming. He speaks about doing what **he** thought would be best to save his boat. He also says everything he did was wrong and a gentleman came by and gave him advice. The advice was to undo and get rid of all the rope that Max had used to tie the boat off and take the boat way out into the gulf and anchor deep. The man helped him and brought him back to shore. When the storm was over they went out to where the boat had been left and anchored. The boat was safe because it had been anchored deep and could ride out the storm.

In the past two weeks my wife and I have been of assistance to family. One member of the family had a much needed operation. My mother had to go on antibiotics that she absolutely despised. They made her body miserable and we were of assistance to her. We then received news about a sister of my mom....news we did not want to receive but she had passed away. After a funeral we traveled home to be hit by a terrible winter storm that had kept us homebound for days. You talk about storms of life but through it all I often thought of Mr. Lucado's advice.....anchor deep. It not only works for a boat but I know works even better for people. And then the storms seemed to hit my wife and I directly, head-on and quite personally. We had been down this road before but once again the same road had to be traveled. This was not by our choice but one always hangs in there for the ones they deeply love. So off and running we went again. Nothing pleasant about this experience. Through it all there were a few scriptures placed on sticky papers in our home by my wife. .

Note # 1: “There is no wisdom, no insight, no plan that can succeed against the Lord.” Proverbs 21:30

Note # 2: “The righteous cry out and the Lord hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles. The Lord is close to the broken hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.” Psalm 34: 17-18

Note/Daily Reminder # 3: “Do not be afraid or discouraged....for the battle is not yours, but God's.” II Chronicles: 20:15

So the question becomes..... how do we endure the storms of life and anchor deep? I think we have three options. Option # 1 is quite simple.....Take care of it yourself and face the problem head-on by yourself. Yes, sometimes it works great but to deal with those storms of life by oneself is a very hard and lonely road to go down. Option # 2 is even less complicated than option one. Option # 2 is to totally ignore the storm. Sweep it under the carpet. Stick your head back in the sand. Sooner or later it will go away. Now everyone that believes that, truly believe, raise your hand. That is what I thought. Option # 3... I believe that Mr. Lucado suggests a way to deal with our storms of life. Yes, Max Lucado is a Christian writer but his writings are designed for anyone and everyone regardless of church affiliation or even if you have never stepped foot inside a church.

Anchor deep to endure the storms of life. These storms can be overcome when the anchor is in Jesus. And you ask Why option # 3? I am glad you asked. The answer is I know from personal experience that Option 1 and 2 might work but are short term. Option 3 works and continues to work even when the same storm comes back. Try it Anchor deep in scripture and promises made therein. Those promises have never been broken and time has proven they never will broken.