

Life Lessons

with Sandy Anderson
www.buildinternational.org



Living a Resurrected Life

In the middle of winter I looked out my window, and the once luscious forest behind my house appeared to be completely dead. Tall trees, once full of foliage, now looked like dead twigs, only good to be cut down and thrown into a fire.

All winter long, it was depressing to look out my window. But when spring came, a transformation took place. Those same lifeless trees were now blooming again. They were covered with thick, green leaves. Birds and animals took shelter in this little forest.

Much like trees during the winter season, we may face seasons of seeming lifelessness. When we go through these "dead" seasons we often feel as though we have had the very life sucked out of us. It could be a sudden attack on our health. It could be the loss of a loved one or it could be a friend betraying you. In the trying circumstances of life's adversities, it can be easy to get bitter, and lose your hope and enthusiasm for life. But like those trees, we must understand that beyond the "deadness," there is life.

The most trying time in Jesus' life was his journey through the garden of Gethsemane, the hill to Golgotha, and ultimately, facing the cross. It was so painful Jesus could not even carry His own cross. Someone named Simon had to come and help Him.

Maybe you are facing a dead winter in your life right now. It could be your business is in trouble. It could be dark in your finances or you may have a loved one not walking right with God. You must understand that God has made provision for the winter you are facing right now. This message is to remind you that God has prepared a "Simon" to help you carry your cross. In the mean time, He is preparing you. He is strengthening you, and He is developing your character for greatness.

You see, when Jesus was on the cross, He cried out, "Why have you forsaken me?" But heaven was silent! Can you imagine? Jesus cried out to His Father and did not receive a response? Maybe you feel heaven is silent in response to your prayers. You may wonder, where is God?

Be of good cheer! God has not forsaken you. **You have been through the death. You have been through the burial. Now it is the third day -- it is time for your resurrection. He is about to resurrect your dead circumstances.**

The Scripture says, *"if the alive-and-present God who raised Jesus from the dead moves into your life, He will do the same thing in you that he did in Jesus. When God lives and breathes in you, you are delivered from that dead life. (Romans 8:11).*

My friend, it is time for us to live with a resurrection mentality. We must let go of hurt, loss, and disappointment. Give it up to God. He will give you beauty for ashes. But first, we must give up the ashes. Then God can bring the dead things in our lives back to life again.

Friend, no matter what challenges you may be facing right now, no matter how many mistakes you have made or what has happened in the past, if you give it to God, He will turn things around for your good!

Remember, you have been through the death. You have been through the burial. Now it is time for your resurrection. Like Jesus, God will also bring you out stronger, healthier, and happier than ever before!