

A WINDOWPANE LESSON

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Sitting here writing I notice, as I look through the window beside me, that with the screen and storm window missing five beetles have gotten into the space at the bottom. On their side of the glass, except for a one-inch high metal rim along the bottom, the entire window is open to the outside, yet the beetles are scrambling around frantically trying to crawl their way out. They start crawling up the smooth rim towards freedom but inevitably fall backwards, ending up stuck on their backs. There they thrash their legs madly, occasionally managing to flip back onto their feet only to try the rim again.

Four of the five are now on their backs. The only one left upright keeps crawling around, and when he gets close enough to one of the flipped ones they can use him to scramble back upright. Now two are up. Oops, only one now. The funny thing is, all they have to do is fly out to freedom. There is plenty of room for them to spread their wings and fly. Yet, for some mental bug reason, they have never thought of that. They just keep trying to crawl out.

I focus back on my writing, keeping an eye on the beetle situation. Now two appear dead and a third looks too tired to live much longer. How dense can you get? *And flying is what they do!* It is *more* natural for them to fly than crawl.

My last count of dead and dying beetles is thirty-one.

There are many dying Christians struggling to survive by living in a way that is unnatural to how we were created to live. God designed us to fly in the spirit, not crawl. As the saying goes, we are not human beings having a spiritual experience, we are spiritual beings having a human experience. We are seated in the heavenlies with Jesus, yet somehow we often seem to get bogged down crawling along with everyone else, merely surviving in a crushing world, fighting to get onto our feet until we die of exhaustion.

We aren't meant for that. As Christians, right in front of our nose is freedom. God calls us to walk among the ones stuck on their backs and help them get up, but that's by choice, by ministry, not because we ourselves are trapped. We can fly out any time we want or need to, as we are free. Stop slogging away looking for a way out. Not only do you have the way out but it's easy, and it should come more naturally to you than breathing.

Here are some ways we as Christians can fly:

- Change our perspective. We are to have a different perspective than non-Christians. Often it is hard not to get bogged down into the same rat race as everyone else, but our perspective on everything should be different. We are living in eternity, and we need to keep an eternal viewpoint. We are not trapped in this world, this life; it is only temporary for us.
- Remember all that we have: hope for our future, a body of believers to encourage us, and a God who loves us unconditionally. We have the security of knowing what happens to us when we die. Our God whom we love heals, rescues, and works all things together for good for those that love Him. He will provide all our needs. In other words, we have outside help that non-Christians don't have.
- Holy Spirit supernaturally lives inside of us. Because of Him we can fly. Non-Christians are stuck walking around dying and not knowing the way out, but we aren't and we can show others how to get out too. With Holy Spirit working through us we have the ability to affect others. We become the rescuers, the helpers, the ones ministering to others, the paymasters giving generously, the healers, the peacemakers, the strong feeding and helping the weak.
- With Holy Spirit living inside of us we have supernatural guidance 24/7. Whatever your situation is, however bleak it looks, no matter what you are walking through, you have a loving God who wants desperately to speak to you and help you. Learn to stop talking so much and listen. He loves to not only encourage you but also help you walk through life victoriously and supernaturally.

- Our Christian walk is meant to be a great adventure. Sometimes it is hard not to get so weighed down with the daily stuff that we lose that viewpoint. Learn to start looking for how God is moving in and around you to liven up your walk with His joy and sense of fun, His peace, and His adventure.

Because of Jesus we can minister to the ones stuck lost and dying on this earth and show them the way out, meanwhile flying out to restore and feed ourselves at the feet of the One we love. That way we have the strength to go back and minister. Change your perspective. Have hope and be encouraged in God's love and security. Most important of all, realize who you are in Jesus. God Himself lives in you and moves through you. If we could grasp how huge that is we could change the world.

Spread your wings and fly!