



Touchstones of the Heart

Demons At The Gate

This month I want to continue using the “Lord of the Rings” as an illustration. I am reading the book and find so many things in it to help us in this journey called the ‘Christian life’. In a recent conversation about the spiritual forces that are constantly at work trying to destroy us, I was reminded of Frodo and Sam and their escape from the dark tower in the land of Mordor. Frodo had been taken captive by the Orcs who had fought over what to do with him and ended up killing each other until only two were left. One ran away after having a short battle with Sam, believing him to be a much larger warrior than he actually was. Once the other Orc is

[Continued on Page 2](#)

Ministry Updates

Quite a lot has happened in the last month, though nothing has happened. What do I mean? God has spoken to us regarding a relocation of this ministry and a greater step of faith than we have undertaken so far. We are being moved forward light years so it seems, but it has been in our thinking and in our hearts. We have yet to see the fulfillment of the promises that we have received. Ever since God gave us the vision of Rescued Heart we have known that we would eventually relocate to the mountains of North Carolina and build a Community of the Heart and Retreat Center. We expected this to happen in a few years, once we had some resources to build with. However, God doesn’t work like that and a few weeks ago quickened in our spirits to look for some property in North Carolina. Through some supernatural circumstances we met with a real estate agent in Bakersville, North Carolina and looked at some

[Continued on Page 2](#)

Tidbits for Living: The Battle Field For Your Heart



Battle Field For The Heart
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The battle is fierce at times, but if you are to win you must fight. In the book “Wild at Heart” John Eldrege tells a story from WWII where a company of men led by a Captain were paralyzed by fear from the battle raging around them. A General approached the Captain asking why they had not taken the house? His reply was “Sir, there are Germans in the house and they are shooting at us.” It’s amazing how in the middle of a war this Captain was surprised that people were shooting at him, yet that is how we act sometimes. The General went on to take the house and kill all the Germans inside. He then said to the Captain, “that is how you take a house with Germans in it, now you know how to do it, do you understand?” Two things can be gained from this story; 1. we are under attack, and 2. We need someone to show us how to fight the battle. Have you isolated yourself? I’m not talking about not going to church or small group

[Continued on Page 2](#)

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“Snowy River”
Digital Image

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Newsletter Spotlight

It is here that we tend to forget and we fail to push through the difficult challenges in our lives. It was here that Elijah failed. He came to the demons at the gate and fell into fear and self pity, running away to a mountain hideaway. It was here that Jonah failed as he allowed pride and selfishness to prevent him from enjoying the grace of God that was poured out on the Ninevites.



Touchstones of the Heart

Demons At The Gate (Continued)

disposed of by his own evil devices, the two hobbits make their way out of the tower and to some hope of safety. Yet, when they come to the gate they are met by an evil presence waiting and watching. For a moment they are prevented from moving forward. It is here that we tend to forget and we fail to push through the difficult challenges in our lives. It was here that Elijah failed. He came to the demons at the gate and fell into fear and self pity, running away to a mountain hideaway. It was here that Jonah failed as he allowed pride and selfishness to prevent him from enjoying the grace of God that was poured out on the Ninevites. How many times have you come to the demons at the gate and fell back in fear and forgot that God can bring you through? I am ashamed to tell how many times it has happened to me. I am just now learning how to move forward instead of being paralyzed by their very presence. What did the hobbits do? They remembered. "Frodo had no strength for such a battle. He sank to the ground. 'I can't go on, Sam,' he murmured. 'I'm going to faint. I don't know what's come over me.' 'I do, Mr. Frodo. Hold up now! It's the gate. There's some devilry there...' Sam drew out the elven-glass of Galadriel again..., the phial blazed forth suddenly, so that all the shadowy court was lit with a dazzling radiance like lightning...The will of the watchers was broken with a suddenness like the snapping of a cord, and Frodo and Sam stumbled forward..." The phial of Galadriel represents the Word of God in the story and when they bring it forth it blazes and the will of the demons at the gate have to yield. In every thing that you try to do for God there will be demons at the gate to oppose you. Draw out the word of God and they will yield! Remember the word of God is not only that which is written, but also what He is speaking to you by His Spirit as well. Listen to His voice and He will guide you past the demons at the gate!

Ministry Updates (Continued)

properties. Moved by God's Spirit we are prepared to make an offer on a 7.47 acre property with a home and four barns. It is unrestricted land located on a paved dead-end road with river access at the end. We are believing God is going to make a way for us to buy this property even though we have no resource to do it. This is the "impossible" that we hear about so often where God makes a way where there seems to be no way. I have included a couple of pictures to the right of this article for you to see the house and some of the land. Sometimes I think I have failed to communicate what Rescued Heart is about and this prevents people from joining us in this vision. I don't have room here, but will be posting a clear understandable vision of this ministry on the website in the very near future. If God is speaking to you about supporting this ministry and helping this vision come to life, please send donations to Rescued Heart Ministries, 5067 Popperdam Creek Dr, N. Charleston, SC 29418 and mark the envelope, "Lord, Give us this mountain!"



Tidbits for Living: The Battle Field For Your Heart (Continued)

Meetings. I'm talking about in the midst of these 'Christian activities' allowing yourself to be isolated and not opening up your life to others. There are many different reasons we do this, the most common one being fear. Afraid of what others will think when they get to know the "real you" and fear of intimacy. Just like the Captain, we fail to move into the battles and will eventually be mortally wounded on the battle field because of fear. We need others in our lives, especially those who can show us 'how to take a house with Germans in it.' The battle is fierce and it is real. Paul puts it this way, "For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ." (2 Corinthians 10:3-5 NIV) True intimate relationships have divine power because true intimacy is the realm of God. He desires to have intimacy with us and wants us to have it with one another. Don't let fear of intimacy paralyze you, step into it today and allow others into your life!

May I give one more small piece of advice? Don't do these things because you "ought to", but do them because you understand without them you will die on the battle field for your heart!

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