

Spiritual Checkers

Rachael Martin, 8,16,2019

So I got to thinking today about the game of checkers and I felt like the Lord, in His faithfulness was sharing with me something.....

In the game of checkers, you have black and red pieces normally and the object is to move from one side to the opposite side – the home line of your opponents by moving forward and in the process jumping your opponent to get there, the object being to get rid of all of your opponents pieces.

However, in the beginning, the only way you can move is forward. The only way you can gain rights to move any direction you want is by making it to the home line of your opponents side and at that point, you are “crowned” usually with another of your color being stacked on top and this means you have freedom to move forward and backward and strategically corner your opponent so that you win the game.

The Lord, I believe was showing me that symbolically, the red resembled the blood of Jesus and the black resembled the sin or areas of bondage in our lives. He was showing me that as we move through life with Jesus, He helps us to strategically move and gain ground over sin in our lives.

He was also showing me that sometimes we have to make a bee line straight through to the help line – and get that crown because then we have extra strength to move to the areas that are more problematic or that are harder to deal with because they are bigger demons, or bigger doubts, or bigger strongholds than the ones that were easier before.

Heading for that line doesn't always mean we win – what it means is that we recognize that we need help and can't do it on our own – it means that we know that when we get to that line, we trust that there will be help – prayer, encouragement, wisdom, hope, assurance, direction, a place where we can gather a game place before we go back out to conquer areas that need dealing with.

We come back more prepared and with the strength that we need to position ourselves accordingly – so that we can say “greater is He who is in me, than he who is in the world”. So that we can say to the mountain move and be cast into the sea – that Jesus gets the victory – He has the final say and we can bow at His feet and allow Him to place the extra strength, the extra protection, the extra humility, whatever it may be that we need – to move forward and we lay hold of the prize – and run the race set before us because we know He’s got what we need and He will give us what we need if we acknowledge that it’s Him we get it from.

Where are you today on that proverbial checker board? If you feel like you are backed into a corner, please reach out to us – we would love to pray with you. Know that God knew your predicament before you did and be persistent in calling out to Him. He will never leave us.

Psalms 121 - I will lift up my eyes to the mountains; From where shall my help come? ² My help *comes* from the Lord, Who made heaven and earth. ³ He will not allow your foot to slip; He who keeps you will not slumber. ⁴ Behold, He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. ⁵ The Lord is your keeper; The Lord is your shade on your right hand. ⁶ The sun will not smite you by day, Nor the moon by night. ⁷ The Lord will protect you from all evil; He will keep your soul. ⁸ The Lord will guard your going out and your coming in From this time forth and forever.

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