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BASIC TRAINING

Ask anyone in the military if they would like to be in a battle with someone untrained and they would say “no way.” Without proper training it would guarantee that the battle would be lost. I have a husband, brothers and other family members that were in the military, and the first thing they went through was “basic training.” This is where they learned to be disciplined, follow instructions, and they learned that their life was no longer their own.

Those that failed basic training “washed out.” They could not qualify for what was necessary to be a soldier. They could not cut it, so to speak.

The worst thing you can tell a new convert to Christianity is that their life is going to be easier, and there will not be any battles. The exact opposite is true. Their life will be full of battles, trials, heartaches, and their faith will be stretched to the limit. All of these are necessary so the “child of God” can grow strong in faith and be a good soldier for Jesus.

Yes, we are in a battle. The battle is the light in you against the darkness of the world. The battle is not against people. It is against spiritual principalities that want to steal, kill, and destroy your life. Without being trained for these obstacles that will come, many Christians also “wash out,” and give up on their walk with God. If they believed their life would be a life of ease, they believed Satan’s biggest lie and deception.

Training is never easy. Just as in physical training the muscles become sore and stretched, our spiritual muscles will be stretched in spiritual training. The tests will come to see what you have learned and how you will react. These tests develop the fruit that will be necessary to sustain your walk with God. The greatest result of this spiritual training is to learn to walk in love no matter what comes against you. When love is all that is left in you, then you pass the test and have become trained to be a good soldier for Jesus.

Do not resist the training. It is necessary. Your success will help others become successful, but your failure may cause others to fail too. Remember that God is in you, cheering you on. The finish line is heaven, and the rewards you receive for being a good soldier far outweigh the training it took to get you there. Keep going! Victory is just ahead.