EPISODE 21:

What Most Christians Get WRONG About Their Hardest Season

There is a kind of tired that has nothing to do with laziness. It is the fatigue of doing the right thing for a long time while the wind blows straight into your face. If that is you, this word is for you.

In this episode, Apostle Raley opens a new series called The Wind Is With Us. Using the picture of the disciples straining at the oars, he shows that resistance is not proof you are off course. The wind that has been against you is about to assist you. It is time to put up your oars and set your sail.

RESISTANCE IS NOT PROOF YOU'RE OFF COURSE

John 6:18

"A strong wind was blowing and the waters grew rough."

The disciples were exactly where Jesus sent them, and still the wind was against them. Being in God's will does not mean the wind is always at your back.

Do not read the resistance as a wrong turn. Sometimes the hardest stretch is simply the last stretch before the wind shifts.

STOP ROWING IN YOUR OWN STRENGTH

Zechariah 4:6

"Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit."

Rowing is effort in your own strength. There is a place for effort, but there is also a moment when striving has to give way to trusting.

Putting up your oars is not quitting. It is refusing to finish in the flesh what only the wind of God can carry.

THE SAME WIND DELIVERS AND DEFEATS

Exodus 14:21

"The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind."

At the Red Sea, one wind did two things: it made a way for God's people and buried the army that chased them.

The wind that rescues you is the same wind that ends what has been pursuing you. What has been against you is about to work for you.

WHAT THE DESERT WITHHELD, THE WIND DELIVERS

Numbers 11:31

"A wind went out from the Lord and drove quail in from the sea."

In a barren place with no visible supply, God sent a wind that carried provision the desert could never produce.

Your provision may already be airborne. What your circumstances cannot give you, the wind of God can carry right to you.

SET YOUR SAIL FOR THE SPIRIT

Acts 2:2

“A sound like the blowing of a violent wind filled the whole house.”

The same word for wind is used for the Spirit. Pentecost came to people who were positioned and waiting when the wind arrived.

You cannot manufacture the wind, but you can set your sail. Position yourself in prayer, in the Word, and in obedience, and be ready to move when it blows.

THE SHIFT CHANGES EVERYTHING

2 Corinthians 4:17

“Our light and momentary troubles are achieving an eternal glory.”

The season that has worn you down is not the end of the story. When the wind turns, you can move further in a moment than you did in years of rowing.

You walked in unnoticed. You are about to walk out unstoppable. Do not quit right before the wind shifts.

THIS WEEK'S MOMENT

Trade striving for trust, and get in position for the shift.

Ask:

- Where have I been reading resistance as proof that I am off course?
- Where am I still rowing in my own strength instead of trusting God?
- What would it look like to put up my oars in this season?

Then:

- Name the place you are exhausted and give it to God
- Stop striving to finish in the flesh what only the Spirit can carry
- Reframe the resistance as a sign the shift is near
- Position yourself in prayer, the Word, and obedience
- Watch for the provision that may already be on the way
- Refuse to quit right before the wind turns

Pray:

"Father, I am tired, and I have been rowing a long time. Thank You that the wind against me is about to become the wind for me. Help me stop striving in my own strength, set my sail, and trust You to carry what I cannot. Let me be in position when the wind shifts. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Remember:

- Resistance is not proof I am off course.
- Exhaustion is not failure.
- The same wind that fought me will carry me.
- What the desert withheld, the wind can deliver.
- I will put up my oars and set my sail.
- As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.