



Ready to impact your workplace?

Bold versus beaten: I wish I had the same energy and boldness I had when I was in my early years of business. There were times I thought we could conquer any competition, build the best businesses and impact the world in



such a positive way through the marketplace. But life comes at you with a ferocity that can often beat us down, force us to accept second best or to accept satisfactory rather than excellent. Survival looks better than success when you are at the bottom of a pit; and business leadership is full of pits.

Maybe you are tired, a little beaten down by the marketplace, with your career not really ending up the way you thought it might or should. Beaten down can take many forms and for some of us, we are not even aware we have “settled for less.” How do you transform your life and your leadership from acceptable into boldness, and I don’t mean by large doses of caffeine? The quick and pithy answer is through obedience to Christ. But what if we have been there, or at least to the best of our abilities we have tried to follow Him? I know the times I was the most beaten down and most weary were the times I thought I was in the right place, doing the right things the right way; all for Him. Obviously if you are in the midst of sin, forget about being bold. You can’t face Him so how can you be bold for Him. If that is the case I have two words of advice; “STOP IT!”. “Go and sin no more” are pretty simple and powerful words.

But what if you are not in that place of disobedience and please don’t think I mean any of us ever gets to a place of complete righteousness since we all fall short virtually every day? But false condemnation is the enemy’s tool to keep us broken and beaten. If we grasp the reality that when God sees me, through the lens of my submission to Christ, he really sees the seal of the King that is on my breastplate. It is in His righteousness that I am made righteous, not in my own so don’t even try to enter the throne room brandishing your own seal. Come under the seal of the King and you are as right with the Father as the King is.

So, again, what if we are beaten but still in the battle? There is a parable I heard and I wish I knew who first wrote it because I would want to give credit where it is due. A man was told by the King to wake up each morning and to press against a giant boulder that the King had placed at the front of his house. Day after day, he would get up and push with all his might on the boulder. After years, he cried out to the King in frustration, “Why have you done this to me, Lord, I have been faithful and done as you asked and the boulder has not budged one inch after all this time?” The King answered, “Go into your house and look at yourself in the mirror. Your arms are strong, your back is like iron and your hands have been prepared for battle. I never intended for you to move the boulder, I intended for the boulder to mold you for my purposes. Now you are ready.”

Every trial, every test, every time we must persevere, we are in His crucible of preparation. To the follower who is prepared, the boldness comes from knowing we have not been beaten down, but have been masterfully prepared. Walk in that boldness, the boldness that comes from knowing you are loved and trusted enough that the King would be your personal trainer. Nothing, no nothing, can keep us from the love of our King. Be bold and lead the people He has given in your care.

“Father, it’s me again and I am tired again. Remind me of my purpose and remind me of your love and care for me. Strengthen me in all the right places for the tasks that you have for me. Prepare me in the midst of the trial that I will be bold for you. Let my boldness shine in love, compassion and caring as it did in my Lord. Give me the boldness of my King. Amen.”

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