

Remnant Life Church
October 13, 2013

Becoming An Eagle Christian

Part III

“Learning To Fly”

- Every living thing grows and matures
 - People
 - Animals
 - Plants
- Every Christian, over time, grows and matures
 - Some mature slowly others rapidly
 - Some desire to grow while others refuse

The Baby Eagle/Christian

1. Safe and secure in the nest
 - a. Seen at 10,000 feet
 - b. Territorial and will return to the same nest year after year
 - c. 5-9 feet across weighing in excess of 4000 pounds
 - d. Many Christians never leave the safety of their nest –
 - i. Church
 - ii. Baby beliefs
 - iii. Their place of woundedness
2. Hatching – the first lesson of the eagle’s life
 - a. The beak develops what might be described as a tooth.
 - b. Through the process of breaking free the eaglet learns perseverance and gains stamina
 - i. **James 1:2-4** - *Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything*
 - ii. **Rom 5: 3-5** - *...we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.*
 1. Thlipsis (the-leap-sis) – means pressure
 2. Denied this important time, the young eagle often dies.
3. Developing
 - a. Within 9-10 weeks the chick is nearing adulthood in size and physical capabilities
 - b. BUT before he can fly he has to first learn to stand.
4. Learning to stand before you are ready to fly
 - a. David – lion and the bear prepared him for Goliath
 - i. **I Samuel 17**

- ii. Fierce animals but without pressure of great defeat
 - iii. A loss to Goliath meant the loss of the kingdom
 - b. Moses – leading sheep prepared him to lead the Israelites
 - i. **Exodus 3**
 - ii. 40 years in preparation
 - iii. In some ways the sheep were easier to deal with than people
 - c. Joseph – oversaw Potiphar’s house and the prison preparing him to oversee all of Egypt.
 - i. **Genesis 39**
 - ii. Joseph began in Potiphar’s house as a slave
 - iii. Continued to learn and lead in prison accused unjustly

- 5. Watch – Learn – Copy
 - a. The baby eagle begins to jump, flap and bound around the nest.
 - b. When bringing food the adults will hover above the nest slowly beating their massive wings instead of landing directly
 - c. The purpose is for the baby eagle to see the function of the wings.
 - d. **Deut 32:11a**- *like an eagle that stirs up its nest and hovers over its young,*

- 6. The First “Flight”
 - a. The mother may entice the eaglet to the edge of the nest or gently nudge it to the rim.
 - b. The eaglet does have a choice albeit a very limited one – go willingly or go by force.
 - i. God will often instruct us in the same way
 - ii. We can learn willingly or by the force of His hand
 - c. Until he actually flies and uses his wings the mother eagle will always intervene and save her chick from death.
 - i. **Deut 32:11b** - *that spreads its wings to catch them and carries them aloft*
 - d. For the Christian, the wings we have been given is our faith.
 - e. **Matt 17:20** - *...Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.”*

- 7. First Flight...again
 - a. The mother eagle returns the eaglet to the nest.
 - b. She often repeats the previous demonstration.
 - c. Out he goes again and again and again....
 - i. He has all the tools to fly what he lacked was the knowledge and experience.
 - ii. As Christians we have everything we need to be victorious over the trials of life many just need to increase their knowledge and experience
 - d. Adult eagles never stay in the nest.

- 8. Growing up
 - a. The mother eagle will work with her chick as long as she needs to for him to succeed.
 - b. God will never give up on us. Never!
 - c. **Exodus 19:4** - *You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself.*