

Series preached on Sunday Morning, September 20th, 27th and October 4th, 2026

Acts 14:19,20

19 And there came thither certain Jews from Antioch and Iconium, who persuaded the people, and, having stoned Paul, drew him out of the city, supposing he had been dead.

20 Howbeit, as the disciples stood round about him, he rose up, and came into the city: and the next day he departed with Barnabas to Derbe.

This was Paul's FIRST missionary journey.
They killed him. This is where he experienced 2 Corinthians 12:1-4

1 It is not expedient for me doubtless to glory. I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord.

2 I knew a man in Christ above fourteen years ago, (whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) such an one caught up to the third heaven.

3 And I knew such a man, (whether in the body, or out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;)

4 How that he was caught up into paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter.

It would seem to most of us that Paul lost that battle. I mean…He was killed.
HOWEVER: vs. 20…He got back up and went on with his missionary journey.

HERE IS THE THING: Most Christians would set their focus on vs. 19…he was stoned…he died… their mentality would be, "Whoa is me!"
They would spend the rest of their life talking about "whoa is me."
They would take several weeks, if not months to get "back into the swing of things."
We would also probably hear things like this…

- Well, you win a few, you lose a few. I lost this…oops!
- Well, you can't win them all.
- You know, losing builds character.
- It's not if you win or lose, it is how you play the game.
  Martina Navatralova said this, "Whoever said it's not if you win or lose, it is how you play the game…probably lost."

BELOVED: Most Christians would have focused on vs. 19 the rest of their lives.
HOWEVER: Luke (and Paul) only gave one verse to that experience…vs. 20 says he got back up and WENT BACK INTO THE TOWN and the next day went to Derbe. He kept moving on!
You want to know the really crazy part?

Acts 14:21,22

21 And when they had preached the gospel to that city, and had taught many, they returned again to ***Lystra, and to Iconium, and Antioch,***

22 Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.

He went to the same cities who killed him and were responsible for killing him and encouraged the saints to keep moving…don't stop…don't quit, until you win!
Because the fact is…the Christian life is different than the world…in the world it may seem logical to win some and lose some (**QUESTION:** Who lost the most Super Bowls in NFL history? ANSWER: Patriots).
But that is not what the Bible says!

We've incorporated LOSING into life (adding those previous clichés); therefore, we have made it part of the Christian life.

QUOTE: A winner is a loser who got back up!
Proverbs 24:16 – "For a just man falleth seven times, and riseth up again…."

Don't Confuse the Battle for a Loss

WEEK 2: Battles are NOT loses…they are a part of LIFE and part of VICTORIES!

BELOVED: We often confuse the battle that we are in the middle of for a loss.
Just because there is a battle…doesn't mean you have lost.
UNDERSTAND: You cannot win without a battle.
ILLUSTRATION: When I was a kid I would shoot at my basketball goal, in our driveway. I would have some amazing games. I had several game sevens of the NBA Finals…I had several one-on-one games against some of the best NBA players of that time…and I WON THEM ALL.
Ya, I know…no one is really impressed…because, none of that really happened. I really didn't have an opponent. It was just me pretending against no body…the clock would go as slow as I needed it to go, until I finally made that winning basket (I wasn't very good).
I got no lucrative deals from endorsements…no rings…no adoring fans…because it wasn't really a battle.

The Bible tells us to EXPECT battles…just don't expect LOSES.

James 1:2 – "My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations (tests and trials)."
1 Peter 4:12 – "Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you:"
1 Peter 5:9 – "Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world."

Even Paul says told the disciples in Lystra, Iconium and Antioch that battles are a part of the Kingdom of God.
NOTICE: Paul doesn't say that LOSING is a part of the Kingdom of God…just battles.

Victory is the Kingdom of God

1 Corinthians 15:53-58
53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.
54 So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, ***Death is swallowed up in victory.***
55 ***O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?***
56 The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law.
57 ***But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.***

Paul is telling us that the WORST the enemy can do is to send us to glory! It is really hard to call that a loss.

ILLUSTRATION: When my dad passed away…we lost dad…dad did NOT lose!

I know…He had stuff he wanted to accomplish on this earth, but it wasn't his loss. He won!

THE KEY? What we do after! We are to pick up the mantle and keep moving! Because we don't lose!

Vs. 57 – Jesus took defeat and conquered over it…forever.

We have been GIVEN the victory through Jesus.

BASICALLY: The game is fixed in our favor. That is the importance of knowing about the FAVOR OF GOD. Things work for you that don't work for just anybody!

1 John 3:8 – "He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil."

BELOVED: This should be our response to EVERY battle that the enemy brings against us,
"Thank you Lord, you have given me the victory through Jesus Christ!"

"Victory" – *nikos* (nike) – victory, utterly vanquish (to conquer, overcome, to subdue in battle as an enemy).

It's been given to us before the battle even shows up!

NOTICE: One more verse in that chapter.

1 Corinthians 15:58 – "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

IN OTHER WORDS: Keep moving…get back up and keep taking ground. Don't settle for the loss!

Jesus didn't give us victory some and losing some…nope just victory!

PLEASE NOTE who wrote this passage…the Apostle Paul…the guy who was killed in Acts 14! He only saw that experience as victory…not defeat!

2 Corinthians 2:14 – "Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of his knowledge by us in every place."

"Triumph" – to celebrate a victory – actually a song that is sung after a victory

"Always" – every when, at all times, **BELOVED:** This means always! It is not tricky!

QUESTION: Is the Bible true?
ANSWER: Yes
THEN: This is true! Always means always!

Now, let's break down the rest of that verse:

"Maketh manifest" – makes to manifest, to come to pass, to appear to everyone

"Savor" – a smell, a sweet aroma, fragrance

"His knowledge in us" – what we know, we will smell like and experience

John 8:32 – "And ***ye shall know the truth,*** and the truth shall make you free."

BELOVED: What you know matters!

Hosea 4:6 – My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge.
YOU MAY SAY: I don't smell like victory!
Well, what were you expecting!
You will ALWAYS TRIUMPH based on what you know!
"In every place" – you know what that means? Ya! In every place you go!

BELOVED: You smell like VICTORY everywhere you go!
We RADIATE the SAVOR of HIS KNOWLEDGE that we have…in every place.
(NASB) – "But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us reveals the fragrance of the knowledge of Him in every place."
(NLT) – "But thank God! He has made us his captives and continues to lead us along in Christ's triumphal procession. Now he uses us to spread the knowledge of Christ everywhere, like a sweet perfume.
(AMP) – "But thanks be to God, Who in Christ always leads us in triumph [as trophies of Christ's victory] and through us spreads and makes evident the fragrance of the knowledge of God everywhere,"

We smell like what we know!
BELOVED: Losing stinks!
SAY IT: I smell like victory!

Everywhere we go…whatever we do…we radiate VICTORY based on the knowledge of the Word that we have.
You leave the smell of His blessing, His goodness, His favor, HIS VICTORY.
That is why we need more Word and not just more clichés!
We change the atmosphere (like perfume) to everywhere we go.
Psalm 31:19 **(NLT)** – "How great is the goodness you have stored up for those who fear you. You lavish it on those who come to you for protection, blessing them before the watching world."

YOU MAY SAY: I don't know about that? Then you need to spend more time in the Word!

BELOVED: Failure is NOT FROM GOD! Defeat is NOT FROM GOD!
UNDERSTAND: God can use a failure, but He isn't the One Who caused it.
He is such an expert at turning failure into triumph, that many have mistakenly attributed the failure to Him.

Romans 8:31,37 – **NOTICE:** This is still Paul speaking!
31 What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?
37 Nay, in all these things ***we are more than conquerors*** through him that loved us.

"All these things" – (vs. 35) tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? They are just battles!

"More than conquerors" – huper-nikeio – hyper-nike – to vanquish (conquer, overcome, subdue in battle) beyond; decisive victory! Hyper victory!

YES: Through Jesus…***who AGAPEO'ed us!*** Actively showed love to us!

Romans 8:38,39
38 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,
39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, ***shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord***.

BELOVED: It is impossible for us to LOSE…because of what Jesus did.

Psalm 23:6 – "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever."

THE QUESTION becomes, what do you know!
What do you REALLY know!

Three Reasons for Failure

THE OBVIOUS STATEMENT made by many Christians: But my life has been full of failures…one after another…I have been a Christian for a long time and I have never really seen a victory. Why is that!

PRE-LIST: Did you get back up…did you keep fighting…have you quit? Are you just in the midst of a MARATHON?

Yet, there are many who have seemingly lost at many things…lost a job, lost at marriage, lost at health…etc.

1.) What you don't know has hurt you.

You don't know the Word or Will of God.

PERHAPS: What you believed would happen, actually happened.

Hosea 4:6 – "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge…"

ILLUSTRATION: Me playing volleyball in the league and kept being called for carrying the ball…annoyed me, but apparently I was, because I didn't know the actual rule! I wasn't really helping my team WIN…because I didn't know the rules.

Ephesians 5:17 – "Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is."

Three Wrong Thoughts:

a.) God is in Control!

So many believe that He is in charge of every good thing AND every bad thing! That it was HIS IDEA!

The problem isn't that God is in charge…it is that most people live like God has nothing to say in their lives AT ALL!

He wants them to do something and they ignore Him.

Revelation 3:20 – "Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me."

BELOVED: This was written to a CHURCH, not to the heathen.

UNDERSTAND: The Lord was nowhere NEAR your disaster!

BELOVED: God has given us the authority…given us the power…it is in our mouth (Proverbs 18:21)…the list goes on!

Jesus/God has already done the FINISHED WORK.

b.) God's Ways are Mysterious.

You never know how he will work. Sometimes He brings blessings, sometimes He brings catastrophes…you just never know!

BELOVED: I will stick with the Bible…and the Bible has told us explicitly what we can expect…what He's done for us…what He has given to us.
Psalm 103:1-5
Isaiah 53:5

Matthew 6:10 – "Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven."
BELOVED: It is not a secret! It is in His Word.
THE PROBLEM? Most people don't know the Word…they know what they've been taught by religion and tradition.

Isaiah 55:8,9
8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.
9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.
YOU SAY: See, it is mysterious!
BELOVED: If His thoughts are higher than our thoughts…***then we need to get our minds out of the gutter.*** Get them in His Word and line our thoughts up with His thoughts!
Isaiah 55:10,11
10 For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater:
11 So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

c.) Failure is a Blessing in Disguise.

This one is pushed more by religion than a lot.
I was given a disease…so I had to just sit and read my Bible.
I was given a disease…so I got to go to the hospital and witness.
I was broke as could be…so I got to learn to do without.
Just blessings in disguise.

John 10:10 – "The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly."
James 1:13 – "Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:"

Psalm 31:19 – "How great is the goodness you have stored up for those who fear you. ***You lavish it on those who come to you for protection, blessing them before the watching world***."

1 Corinthians 14:33 – "For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints."

THINK OF IT LIKE THIS: Paul being stoned was NOT from God (disguised); Paul rising from the dead WAS FROM GOD (not disguised).
People love NO FAULT religion. It isn't my fault…must be Gods…must be my pastors…must be my spouses…etc

2.) Yielding to Your Flesh!

BELOVED: More failures happen due to your flesh than anything else.
We love to blame it on the devil (the devil make me do it), but it comes down to your flesh making you do it.

James 1:12-15,17

12 ***Blessed is the man that endureth temptation***: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.
13 Let no man say when he is tempted, ***I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil***, neither tempteth he any man:
14 But every man is tempted, ***when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed***.
15 Then when lust hath conceived, ***it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.***
17 ***Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning***.

Your flesh causes you more problems than you know.
That is why the Apostle Paul told us this…

1 Corinthians 9:24-27

24 Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain.
25 And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible.
26 I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air:
27 But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

Feed your spirit man…make him stronger than your flesh (Romans 7 vs. Romans 8).

2 Samuel 11:1,2

1 And it came to pass, after the year was expired, at the time when kings go forth to battle, that David sent Joab, and his servants with him, and all Israel; and they destroyed the children of Ammon, and besieged Rabbah. But David tarried still at Jerusalem.
2 And it came to pass in an eveningtide, that David arose from off his bed, and walked upon the roof of the king's house: and from the roof he saw a woman washing herself; and the woman was very beautiful to look upon.

NOW: We know the rest of the story…

- David got her pregnant.
- David called her husband home to sleep with his wife…he refused.
- David put him on the front lines to make sure he died.
- David married Bathsheba.
- Nathan (God's prophet) called David on it.
- The baby died.

UNDERSTAND: It says that God struck the baby with the illness…but we need to be sure that we understand it was David's actions that brought the result. His sin…His flesh.

Just in case (regarding David):
Deuteronomy 24:16 says, "Father's shall not be put to death for the sins of their children, nor children put to death for the sins of their father; each is to die for his own sin."

Ezekiel 18:20 says, "The soul who sins is the one who will die. The son will not share the guilt of the father, nor will the father share the guilt of the son. The righteousness of the righteous man will be credited to him, and the wickedness of the wicked will be charged against him."

NOTICE: What he did!

a.) It was at the time where kings went to war.

David was supposed to be somewhere that he wasn't!

He was not fulfilling His calling!

BELOVED: When you are refusing to do what you've been anointed and appointed to do, by God, you will start allowing your flesh to call the shots in more areas of your life.

b.) He let his eyes/flesh start calling the shots.

If you start staying home from church for seemingly good reasons…it won't be long before you start staying home from church for NO REASON!

If you start missing daily time with God for seemingly good reasons…it won't be long before you are missing daily time with God for NO REASON!

If you start not giving/tithing for seemingly good reasons…it won't be long before you are not giving/tithing for NO REASON.

If you refuse to use your gifts and talents for God for seemingly good reasons…it won't be long before you refuse to use your gifts and talents for God for NO REASON.

The list goes on!

The more you let your flesh call the shots…the more you flesh will cause you to fail…period!

Romans 8:1-14 (talk about it…scan through it)

3.) You Quit!

We talked, last week, about how important it was for us to GET BACK UP! If you fall seven times…get back up! Don't quit!

Paul didn't stay laying at the edge of town…he got back up! He didn't quit!

Joshua 1:6-9 (when Joshua was taking over and getting ready to lead them into the Promised Land…God spoke this to him)

(perhaps read 2-5 too…talks about victory)

6 **Be strong and of a good courage:** for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I sware unto their fathers to give them.

7 ***Only be thou strong and very courageous,*** that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest.

8 This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: ***for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success***.

9 Have not I commanded thee? ***Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid***, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

"Be strong and of good courage" – hard headed and obstinate…you don't listen to anyone who says to quit.
You will take the land if you refuse to quit!

Galatians 6:9 – "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."
The most tired you will ever become, in life, is at harvest season. Everyone is excited about all the food they are going to enjoy…until they have to get out in the heat and bring it in…it takes work.

Go back to James 1:12 – "***Blessed is the man that endureth temptation***: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him."

BELOVED: Don't quit…don't stop! Stick with God's system…His kingdom…it will work!

Four Things Necessary for Victory

Last week we dealt with the area of why people experience failure…defeat, etc.
Today, I want us to examine what is necessary for us to walk in victory.
UNDERSTAND: If you are missing any of these areas…then you need to get them…because it will be impossible for you to experience the victory that God says you have.

BELOVED: So many Christians fight this message of VICTORY because they assume if Jesus won it on the cross, then it should just happen. If it isn't JUST happening, then apparently it isn't for everyone.
AGAIN: I will stick with what the Word says…victory is ours in Christ.

1.) Jesus Christ.

UNDERSTAND: It is the WORK of Jesus on the cross…and His resurrection that gives us the victory…nothing that we have done.
You haven't been good enough to earn victory. Only by Jesus.

1 Corinthians 15:57 – "But thanks be to God, which ***giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ***."
2 Corinthians 2:14 – "Now thanks be unto God, which ***always causeth us to triumph in Christ***…."
Roman 8:37 – "Nay, in all these things ***we are more than conquerors through him*** that loved us."

What Jesus did on the cross FINISHED everything. Left nothing undone!
"It is finished" (John 19:30) means it is finished.
2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Peter 2:24; 2 Corinthians 8:9; Isaiah 53:5
Colossians 2:15 – spectacle of them openly
The ONLY reason that have the victory is through Jesus.

BELOVED: If He did it that settles it. So expect it!
Whatever battle you are currently facing…Jesus defeated.

2.) Faith.

There is NO VICTORY without faith.

1 John 5:4,5

4 For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and ***this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith***.

5 Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?

a.) We are born of God…born-again! Therefore, we overcome the world.

b.) We overcome the world with our faith. **NOTICE:** "our faith".

Faith brings the victory from the unseen to the seen (Hebrews 11:1).

Simplest definition of FAITH: Living like what Jesus said is true!

Hebrews 10:35-39

35 ***Cast not away therefore your confidence***, which hath great recompence of reward.

36 For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.

37 For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry.

38 ***Now the just shall live by faith***: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.

39 But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.

You confidence isn't in your ability…it is in what Jesus has done…and what He has promised!

QUESTION: How does faith come?

That technically leads us to our next point.

3.) The Word!

We discussed earlier in why people experience failures that their lack of the Word is a major reason.

Well, the counter of that is true too…the MORE WORD YOU KNOW, the more victory you live in.

HOWEVER: Let's step into it a bit further…

Romans 10:8,14-17

8 But what saith it? ***The word is nigh thee***, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the ***word of faith, which we preach***;

NOTE #1: The Word that is being talked about here is RHEMA…not LOGOS (written word). The WORD that makes a difference in your life is the ALIVE WORD in you.

NOTE #2: Notice how they got the Rhema…"the word of faith that PAUL taught." You get Rhema not from just reading…but from HEARING rhema.

14 How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and ***how shall they hear without a preacher?***

vs. 17 – faith comes by hearing…how can they hear without a preacher!

15 And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, ***How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace***, and bring glad tidings of good things!
16 But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report?
17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

THERE IT IS: I should just read the Bible out loud and faith will come!
"Word" – rhema – living, powerful Word…lit up Word.
"God" – actually, CHRISTOS – Christ (anointed ONE and His anointing).

UNDERSTAND: Faith doesn't come by hearing LOGOS…written Word of God. It comes by hearing someone declare the LIFE GIVING, LIVING, POWERFUL WORD OF GOD…under the ANOINTING of God.

Faith comes by hearing the anointed utterance, not from just hearing someone preach a sermon or read a Scriptures.

Your faith is boosted…therefore, victory manifests…as you hear the anointed Word of God.

4.) Endurance and Patience!

NOTE: The last point of why people fail was simply THEY QUIT.
So, that would lead us to believe that the most important thing for us to enjoy victory is to NOT QUIT.

Hebrews 10:35-39
35 Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward.
36 ***For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.***
37 For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry.
38 ***Now the just shall live by faith***: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.
39 But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.

NOTE: Patience has NOTHING To do with JUST waiting it out. Today? No? Maybe tomorrow!
"Patience" – constancy, steadfast, not changing.

Don't just NOT QUIT…but stick with the Word. Stick with faith! Keep living in faith! Stay in the Word…don't stop!

James 1:2-4
2 My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; (battles).
3 Knowing this, that the ***trying of your faith worketh patience***.
NOTICE: When your faith is tempted, tested and tried…your patience is working.
4 But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.
HOWEVER: When you stick with it…don't quit…PERFECT and ENTIRE, LACKING NOTHING!

James 1:12 – "Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him."
"Life" – zoe life – God's kind of life
Days of Heaven on earth!

Conclusion

BELOVED: Jesus won the victory for us…but it is up to us whether we live in victory or not!

People love NO FAULT religion. It ain't my fault…God must have wanted me to go through it! Then why did He send His only Son!

People blame God…their pastors…their spouses…their kids…their jobs…their parents…the list goes on!

BELOVED: It comes down to you. What will YOU DO to see that VICTORY manifest in your life?