

DAY 16

Lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees; And make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way; but let it rather be healed. (Hebrews 12:12 KJV)

~~ *Our goal is to make it to port* ~~

This verse is God's word of encouragement to us to lift the hands of faith and to fortify the knees of prayer. All too often our faith becomes tired, weak, and listless, and our prayers lose their power and effectiveness.

The Lord's illustration here is quite compelling. He is pointing out to us that when we become so discouraged and fearful that even one little obstacle depresses and frightens us, we are tempted to walk around it. The temptation is to find help from someone else or somewhere else.

We tend to find many ways of walking around emergencies instead of walking straight through them. So often we are faced with something that frightens or overwhelms us and seek to evade the problem with the excuse: "I'm not quite ready for that now." Perhaps this is the time to go straight. Even if it may require some sacrifice, or demand our obedience in some area.

Our Lord is telling us, "Lift up the hands that hang down. Turned around and be healed. Let your faith straightened." Pay as little attention to discouragement as possible. Plow ahead like a steamship, which moves forward whether facing rough or smooth seas, and in rain or shine. Remember, the goal is simply to carry the cargo and to make it to port.– *Maltbie D. Babcock* (LC – June 18)

~~~ *Pray* ~~~

Abba Father,

I confess that I am often discouraged. Please help me look upon my Lord and keep up my faith to remember your promise of "I will be with you and strengthen you." It's the time to straighten my heart and overcome challenges from my inside out. Thank you, Lord! (DC)