

**At The Movies**  
**June 29, 2014**  
**“Overcoming Adversity”**

**You're never a loser until you quit trying.**

**-Mike Ditka**

**Marshall Clip** - At 7:36 pm on November 14, 1970, the aircraft crashed into a hill just short of the Tri-State Airport, killing all 75 people on board. The plane was carrying 37 members of the Marshall University Thundering Herd football team, eight members of the coaching staff, 25 boosters, and 5 flight crew members. The team was returning home after a 17–14 loss to the East Carolina Pirates at Ficklen Stadium in Greenville, North Carolina.

**1. Life is full of adversity, but we can be victorious!**

But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, so that the surpassing greatness of the power will be of God and not from ourselves; *we are* afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not despairing; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed;

**2 Corinthians 4:7-9 (NASB)**

**2. Adversity tests our faith and resolve.**

Consider it a sheer gift, friends, when tests and challenges come at you from all sides. You know that under pressure, your faith-life is forced into the open and shows its true colors. So don't try to get out of anything prematurely. Let it do its work so you become mature and well-developed, not deficient in any way.

**James 1:2-4 (MSG)**

**3. It's our cool in the crisis, which sets us apart for the World.**

If you fall to pieces in a crisis, there wasn't much to you in the first place. Rescue the perishing; don't hesitate to step in and help. If you say, "Hey, that's none of my business," will that get you off the hook? Someone is watching you closely, you know... Someone not impressed with weak excuses.

**Proverbs 24:10-12 (MSG)**

"I've missed more than 9000 shots in my career. I've lost almost 300 games. 26 times, I've been trusted to take the game winning shot and missed. I've failed over and over and over again in my life. And that is why I succeed."

~ Michael Jordan

**4. We are not alone, in adversity.**

Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous! Do not tremble or be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

**Joshua 1:9 (NASB)**

**Remember the Titans Clip** - In one of my favorite scenes from the movie, we see the Titans embroiled in a battle for the state championship... Racial tension, cheating and team division are a few of the adverse conditions that must be overcome.

**5. Adversity is overcome by perseverance.**

Blessed is a man who perseveres under trial; for once he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life, which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.

**James 1:12 (NASB)**

Announcements:

June 29<sup>th</sup> - New Sermon Series - "At the Movies"

July 20<sup>th</sup> - Growth Track 1.0 & 2.0 Learn more about Awaken and how to get involved.

Life Group Study Questions:

1. Adversity comes at you from so many angles... When you realize that all Adversity isn't bad... it changes your perspective. Talk about this.
2. Adversity tests your faith and resolve... Do you find that you are quick to want to give up?
3. Attitude is a small thing that makes a huge difference... How you choose to view your adversity and ultimately how you handle the crisis is what can have the most impact on those watching... How do you handle your business?
4. Realizing that you don't have to face adversity alone is one of the most freeing things we can understand. Not only does God promise to go with us, but we are challenged to build community and do life with other believers, who can encourage us as well... Who are you journeying with? Who do you rely on? Who thinks they can rely on you?
5. Adversity is overcome with persistence... If you don't quit you can't lose! Talk about an area in your life that you need to be more persistent about...