

Don't Invent Giants

I. Introduction:

A. As Christians, we are to stand fast in the liberty Christ gives us (**Galatians 5:1**).

1. It is wrong for Christians to make things more difficult than need be (**Acts 15:5-10**).
2. What is good in the sight of God is to lay no greater burden upon brethren than what is necessary (**Acts 15:28**).

B. We know the run (**I Corinthians 9:24-27** and **Hebrews 12:1-3**) can be uphill at times (**John 16:33** and **II Timothy 2:11-12**).

1. Paul told Timothy to endure hardness [hardships] (**II Timothy 2:3**).
2. We see hardships in many forms (**Matthew 5:10-12**, **Matthew 10:34-37**, **Luke 6:22**, **Romans 12:1-2**, etc.).
3. So, why would you create hardships that aren't really there?

II. Body: Don't Invent Giants (**Numbers 13:17-33**).

A. Don't be one who seeks to make excuses (**Luke 14:15-24**).

1. God says hear, learn, and then do (**Deuteronomy 5:1**, **Luke 8:21**, **Luke 11:28**, **Romans 2:13**, and **I John 2:29**).
2. Faithful Christians have one direction - forward (**Luke 9:57-62** and **Hebrews 10:38-39**).

B. Think about confidence (**II Corinthians 5:8-9**).

1. There is of course a false confidence (**Proverbs 14:16**).
2. There is arrogance (**Proverbs 8:13**).
3. There is a carnal confidence (**Philippians 3:3**).
4. But, there is a godly confidence too (**Ephesians 3:12** and **I John 3:20-21**).

C. Think about some, of countless that could be named, giants Christians unnecessarily create and face:

1. Anxiety over things of which you have no control. We should not be anxious people (**Matthew 6:19-34** and **Philippians 4:6-9**).
2. We want to be "soul winners" (**Proverbs 11:30**). Yet, we cannot control whether or not someone wants to hear and obey (**Jeremiah 13:1-10**). All we can do, instead of creating a giant, is move on (**Matthew 10:14**).
3. Not seeking and adhering to wise counsel (**Proverbs 12:15**, **Proverbs 15:22**, and **Proverbs 19:20**) wherein decisions are made and unimagined giants are created.
4. Being so fearful of being lost that obedient fear (**Philippians 2:12**) turns into destructive fear (**I John 4:16-18**).

III. Conclusion: Can you carry the weight you've taken on (**Galatians 6:5**)?