



T H E R E A C H

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Filtering everyday life through the Word of God

One concept of biblical maturity is paying close attention to various Scriptures with repetitive patterns. Throughout the Bible, we read amazing stories of miraculous blessings upon good and faithful men and women who walked pathways marked by extreme trials. It is important to remember that these repeating stories foreshadowed the blessings and sufferings of our Lord Jesus. As we have looked at the extreme trials of Daniel, we see his personal repetition through his trials equaled his miraculous results.

- 1. Think about past communities** you have lived in, the stands/stadiums you have sat in, the athletes your husband has coached. Many things are familiar and similar. What are some repeating patterns that you have seen in your journey as a coach's wife?
- 2. For many who have moved,** we inadvertently prioritize a search for repeating, familiar scenarios. Share a specific example of how God provided that through a person or situation. Maybe a booster club mom that reached out, a small group at church, an athlete that became part of your family, etc.

Let's compare Daniel's life with the Old Testament, biblical character of Joseph. Both shared similar, repeating scenarios. Both were ordinary young men serving God. Both were teenage captives in different nations. Both were able to interpret dreams. And, **both were thrown into a pit and left to die;** Daniel was an old man ([Daniel 6:13-16](#)), and Joseph was a young man ([Genesis 37:23-24](#)). The elderly Daniel, entrapped by his peers, was actually **guilty** of deviating from Babylon's governmental law. ([Daniel 6:10](#)) However, the young Joseph, abandoned by his brothers, was **innocent** of any wrong doing. Regardless of their multiple, near death experiences, these men never wavered from their faith.

- 3. Younger or older,** we all can tell a story of a repeating trial of being a coach's wife. What is an example that has left you clinging to your faith while validating the Lord's steadfastness?

Despite many progressive changes since biblical days, Christian men and women still experience repeating patterns of devastation while loyally serving

the Lord. The repetitive message is retold through story after story with different names and faces.

**Just as our Lord
Jesus Christ suffered,
when a Christian suffers,
it authenticates and extends
HIS story,
while bearing our own
stripes of pain and loss.**

"How quickly we forget the miracles of our past as we step into an uncertain future, fearing we've used up our allotment of God's provision and we're all out of miracles."

Katharine Wolf

Let's consider two remarkable women. Like Daniel and Joseph, they experienced an inexplicable pit of loss and despair; two women from two nations, two women who walked a pathway marked by extreme terror. The elder, similar to Daniel, was punished for breaking governmental law; the younger, like Joseph, was cast into a pit of disablement having done no wrong. Prior to the horrors they faced, they were quite ordinary, unremarkable women, according to the world's standards. However, their faith became the secret to their captivating stories.

Corrie ten Boom, a Dutch citizen who grew up working in her father's watch shop, helped nearly 800 Jews escape the Nazi Holocaust during World War II. At the age of 52, she was incarcerated in the notorious Ravensbruck concentration camp, home to 40,000 female prisoners –most of whom tragically never left. Through God's providence, she survived the torturous actions of her captors at Ravensbruck and was released a year later due to a clerical error. Spending the remainder of her life travelling to share her message in over 60 different countries, she astonished the world by forgiving her tormentors. **“There is no pit so deep that God's love is not deeper still.”**

4. **Like Jesus**, Corrie ten Boom had to forgive her captors in order to effectively share her message. Can you share an example of someone you have had to forgive in your journey as a coach's wife? For some, it may have been a community, or group of people. NOTE: Focus on the steps leading to forgiveness as opposed to dwelling on the grievances.

Hold everything in your hands lightly, otherwise it hurts when God pries your fingers open.
—Corrie ten Boom

Katherine Wolf, a healthy young wife and new mother living in California, suffered a massive brain-stem stroke at the age of 26 and spent 40 days on life support. At the age of 28, she was enrolled in Medicare, had her driver's license revoked, and was deemed permanently disabled by the state. Through her ordeal, she learned to “suffer well, cope well, persevere well, and even lose well.” Pain is her instructor, propelling her repeated message of hope as a voice for the disabled and broken hearted. She states, “My experience has caused me to redefine healing through a story of hope.” But **“if hope is only rooted in an outcome, then your experience will crush you.”** Today's “culture tells us to succeed, be beautiful, pain free, and happy. What if

everything in our life is actually the opposite? Maybe it takes life being *undeniably* terrible before we can *truly* recognize its *undeniable* splendor.”

5. **Like Jesus**, Katherine Wolf has suffered deeply to

“Perhaps some detours aren't detours at all...”

...perhaps they are actually the path.”
—Katharine Wolf

share an effective message for the disabled and often invisible community. The statements, “suffer well, cope well, persevere well, and even lose well,” are precious characteristics fitting of Jesus Christ who valued the invisible community! Give an example of a time as a coach's wife where you can say you did one of the following well: suffer, cope, persevere, or lose.

More on Katherine Wolf or Corrie ten Boom's story [HERE](#)



If God sends us on strong paths, we are provided strong shoes.
—Corrie ten Boom



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CW's,
We LOVE hearing from you.
Share with us a habit or routine that sets your marriage up for success.
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