

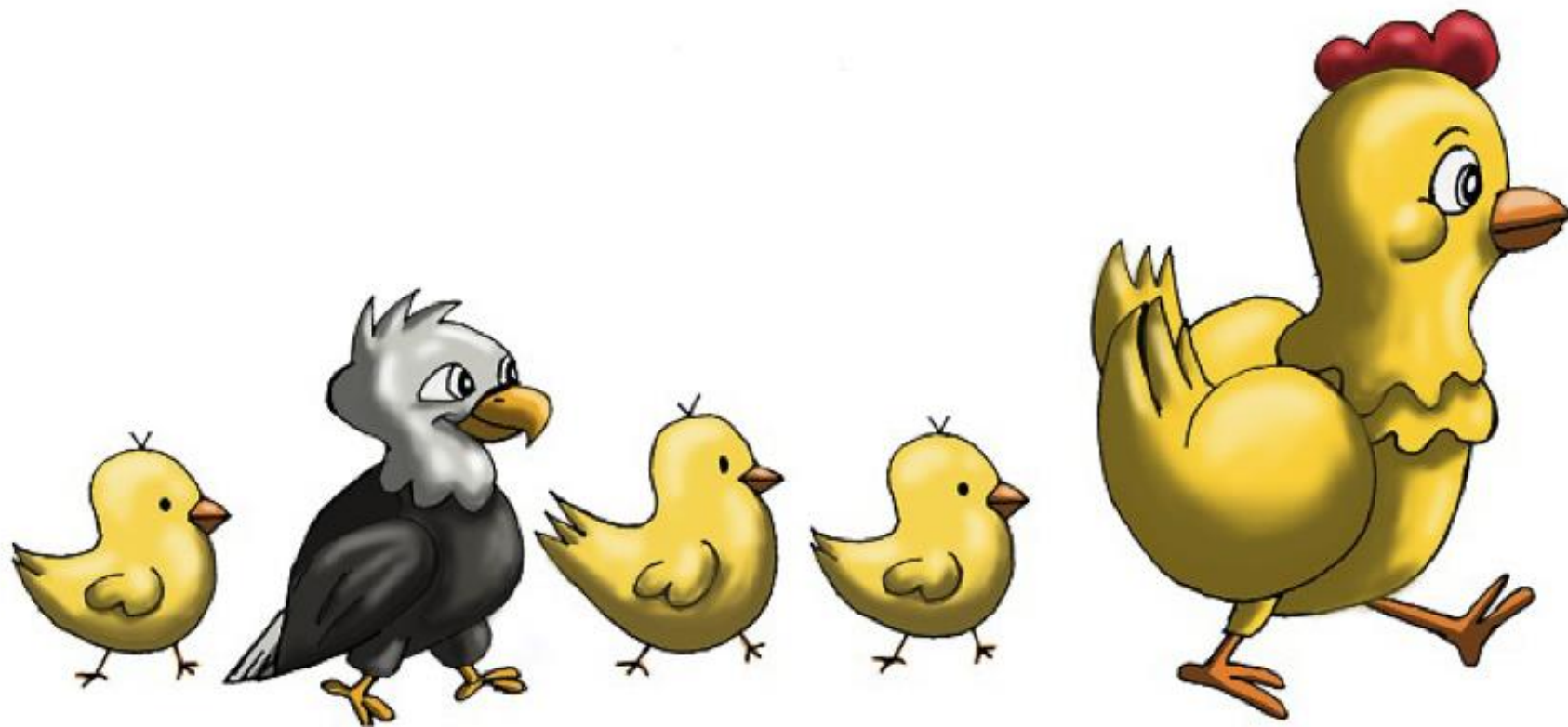


Building a Kingdom Culture

A PEOPLE WHO ... DO NOT FEAR

13 August 2017

THE EAGLE WHO WAS RAISED AS A CHICKEN



THE EAGLE WHO WAS RAISED AS A CHICKEN

The eagle

- Soars in the breeze
- Flies above the storm
- Hunts for its own food
- Has a terrifying screech
- Ends up on a flag

The chicken

- Can't fly very far
- Hides in the coop
- Pecks for kitchen scraps
- Says "cock-a-doodle-do"
- Ends up in a pie



WE ARE MEANT TO BE FEARLESS EAGLES, NOT FEARFUL CHICKENS

The moral of the story

- The eagle who lives in the world pecks around the farmyard being fearful with the chickens
- The eagle released into God's kingdom takes to the skies fearlessly and soars in the wind
- It's about knowing who we really are and where we choose to position ourselves

WE ARE MEANT TO BE FEARLESS EAGLES, NOT FEARFUL CHICKENS

1. **FEAR** comes from the Devil and makes us act like chickens
2. **TRUST** is stronger than fear. It's built up when we exercise faith. We then act like the eagles we are called to be
3. **FAITH** comes from listening to God's, finding out His will and then putting it into practice

FEAR COMES FROM LISTENING TO THE ENEMY

- **FEAR** can have a powerful influence over our behaviour
- We lose our resolve to do what we intended to do



FEAR COMES FROM LISTENING TO THE ENEMY

The Devil tries to tempt us by sowing doubt

You'll just mess it up

Think of the energy that will take

You're a born loser

You're going to regret even trying

You haven't got what it takes

What are your friends going to say?

You're no good at this kind of thing

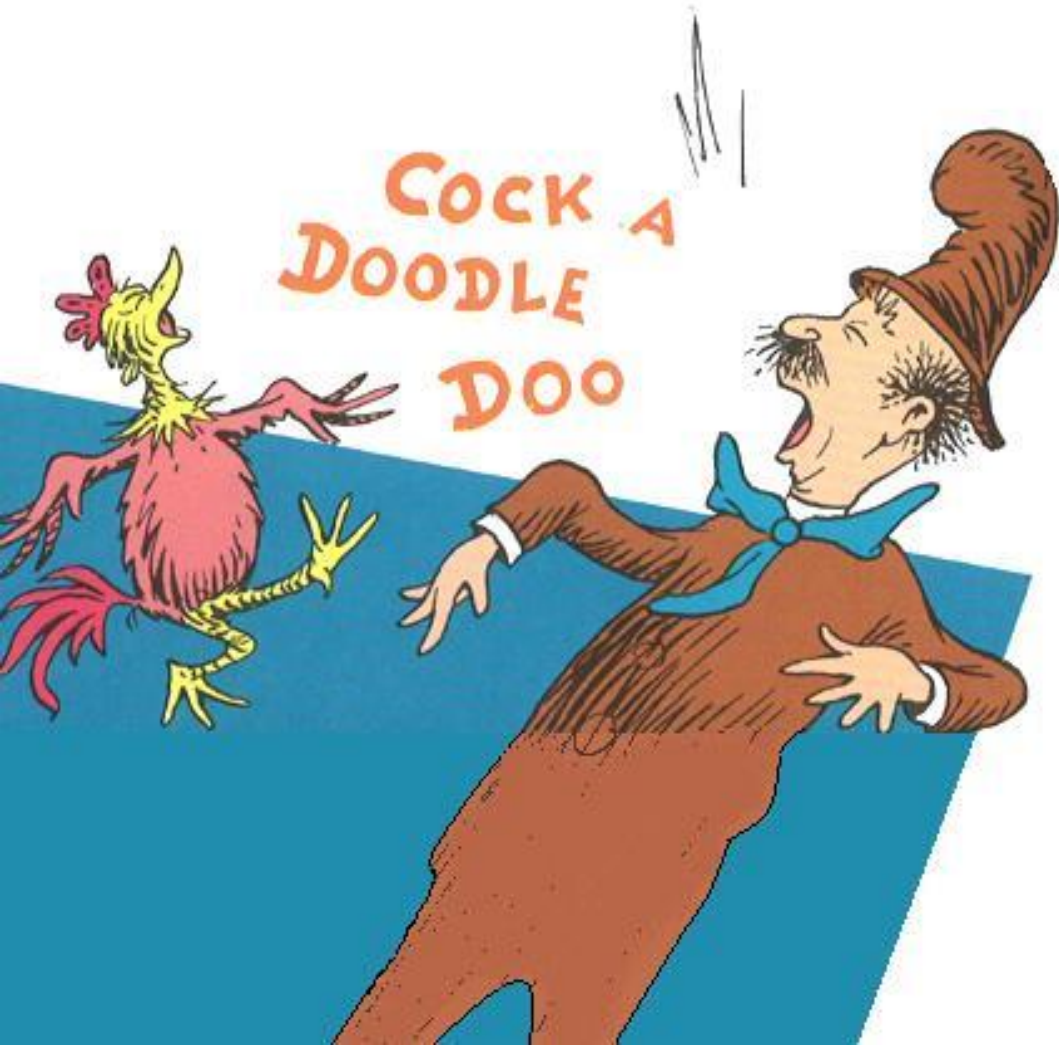
You'll end up looking like a fool

That will take up all your time!

THE CONSEQUENCES OF FEAR

- When we swallow these lies we tend to focus in on ourselves
- ... on what we believe we can do in our own strength

THE CONSEQUENCES OF FEAR



- And we begin to look at the perceived difficulty of the task before us
- Or what we think the consequences might be (particularly if we fail)
- So we chicken out

FAITH COMES FROM LISTENING TO GOD

- **FAITH** comes from listening to God ... and then doing what he asks of us
- **Hebrews 11:1** Now faith is **confidence** in what we hope for and **assurance** about what we do not see
- Confidence in God's **plans and purposes** for the world ... and us as individuals
- Assurance that He has the resources we need to **play our part** in those plans and purposes

FAITH AND DEEDS ARE INSEPARABLE

- We need to **follow up** our beliefs by acting on them
- **James 2:14** What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds?
Can such faith save them?
- ... **26** As the body without the spirit is dead, so **faith without deeds is dead**

FAITH AND TRUST

- Exercising **FAITH** builds up our **TRUST** in God
- Trust in the Lord, lean not on your own understanding
- We are called to **walk by faith and not by sight**

DON'T LET YOUR EYES TELL YOU LIES

9 feet = 2.74 metres



DON'T LET YOUR EYES TELL YOU LIES

9 feet = 2.74 metres

Or



DON'T LET YOUR EYES TELL YOU LIES

9 feet = 2.74 metres

Or

And David only needed one stone!
(I wonder what he did with the other four)



GOD KNOWS OUR WEAKNESS

- God speaks comfort and encouragement (if we would only listen)
- Time and again he tells us, “do not be afraid”
- **Joshua 1:9** Have I not commanded you to be strong and very courageous? So do not be afraid, nor intimidated, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you are
- We are the new ‘Joshua Generation’

GOD KNOWS OUR WEAKNESS

- Being “strong and courageous” does not mean that we will never experience fear
- The enemy is always out to tempt and trick us through his lies
- Taking courage means that – by God’s grace – we will find the fortitude to overcome our fear



WHAT IS STOPPING YOU ACTING LIKE AN EAGLE?

- You prefer to rely on your own abilities and resources rather than God's promises
- You keep swallowing the Enemy's lies
- Your faith has stopped growing trust because it is not being backed up by deeds
- You are trying to walk by sight and not by faith