

Regaining Our Cutting Edge

(October 4, 2020)

- We are living in a season of separation (1 Corinthians 3:12).
 - ✓ The wood, hay and stubble are being revealed.
 - ✓ The gold, silver and precious stones of Christ-like character are coming to the surface.
- The devil's perseverance is dulling the edge of our faith (Ecclesiastes 10:10).
 - ✓ Staying sharp is a daily assignment.
 - ✓ Some of us are discovering that anger, fear and depression are much closer to the surface than we ever imagined.

How does God restore our lost faith and passion?

- 2 Kings 6:1-2
 - ✓ The gift of faith will often lead us to decisions of wisdom.
 - Those decisions can carry the risk of loss or pain
 - But without the risk, we remain in the Dead Sea of sameness.
 - ✓ Elisha gave the young men the opportunity to act on their vision.
 - Giving space for growth also introduces the possibility of problems and difficulties.
- 2 Kings 6:4-5
 - ✓ One young man acquired some equipment which was rare and costly.
 - He was a young man of passion and faith.
 - But his aggressive behavior brought him a seemingly unsolvable problem.
 - He humbled himself and cried out to his spiritual authority.
 - He did not attempt to blame others.

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- 2 Kings 6:6-7
 - ✓ Godly leaders do not shame or accuse the repentant.
 - They help the humble find what is lost.
 - ✓ The most difficult issue: we must want to find the lost axe-head.
 - Not everyone is asking where we lost our edge.
 - It just seems easier to be lukewarm.
 - ✓ When God makes the axe-head float, each of us must pick it up for himself.

Wrap-up

- Many today are pretending that everything is as it always has been.
- God is calling His Church to know the difference between delusion and spiritual reality.