

## Battles are Never Won Alone –

By A. Joseph Coffman

### Theme:

Our missionaries cannot do their job alone, they need their arms raised in support and God give the victory.

### Intro:

Name “Sully” Sullinberger is familiar to everyone in the room. He is the pilot of jet that landed in the Hudson River, an amazing feat of flying that somehow, against all odds, ended with all 137 (?) lives being rescued. Sully became a national hero, had a parade in his honor in his hometown in Ohio, given the keys to New York City and appeared on magazine covers and Television shows all across the country.

Did you notice that in most of his appearances, he was never alone. On Larry King, on Evening News, Time magazine, he is one of a crowd. The people surrounding him are his flight crew, his second in command, his cabin crew. He says that all he did was land the plane, they saved the lives.

And he talks about first responders, fire fighters, police, harbor police, tug boat crews, a veritable army of men and women who were on the scene instantly, pulling plane members off the wings of that half floating plane in a freezing cold river.

Capt. Sully's point: no one becomes a hero by himself

When I think of heroes, I think of our missionaries. What they do is heroic. Names like Buntain and Plymire and Lillian Trasher, etc. Heroes to the bone.

But they didn't do it alone, they *couldn't* do it alone

<sup>8</sup>While the people of Israel were still at Rephidim, the warriors of Amalek came to fight against them. <sup>9</sup>Moses commanded Joshua, “Call the Israelites to arms, and fight the army of Amalek. Tomorrow, I will stand at the top of the hill with the staff of God in my hand.”

<sup>10</sup>So Joshua did what Moses had commanded. He led his men out to fight the army of Amalek. Meanwhile Moses, Aaron, and Hur went to the top of a nearby hill. <sup>11</sup>As long as Moses held up the staff with his hands, the Israelites had the advantage. But whenever he lowered his hands, the Amalekites gained the upper hand. <sup>12</sup>Moses' arms finally became too tired to hold up the staff any longer. So Aaron and Hur found a stone for him to sit on. Then they stood on each side, holding up his hands until sunset. <sup>13</sup>As a result, Joshua and his troops were able to crush the army of Amalek.

*Ex. 17:8-13 (NLT)*

## **MISSIONS is Spiritual War**

- 1) Missions is Spiritual War (Moses engages the battle).

Do we see missions as spiritual warfare? Invading the enemies territory, taking captive what he has claimed, seeing our lives as a life and death struggle. Moses obeys the command, rallies the troops, enters the battle.

## **SENDING and EQUIPPING**

- 2) Aaron and Hur lift his arms (They cannot win the battle alone, they need the twin support of SENDING & EQUIPPING).

We have already sent them – they are on the field.

Is your church, or your life, a sending church/life? Truth of the matter is, you're either a sender or a "goer"; nobody stands and watches in the Kingdom. If you are not sending, you need to be going.

Are we equipping them?

Light for the Lost serves to empower the church to provide God's Word for every person on the planet. Whether that's through evangelism literature, multi-media presentations, evangelistic web sites, the Fire Bible or Book of Hope, LFTL is equipping missionaries around the world to effectively share His story.

While Light for the Lost equips for evangelism, coupled with the strong arm of sending, the battle is swung towards victory.

It would be shame to send a logger into the forest and give him an ax instead of a chainsaw. We wouldn't send a doctor into surgery with a pocketknife and table spoon.

- 3) Seated on the rock – underneath all of our efforts – sending, equipping, missionary working – is the power of the Holy Spirit. Combine those three elements with the Pentecostal power of spirit filled missions work – there WILL BE VICTORY!

God gives the victory – we do the sending and the equipping

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