

Georgia: Jesus and Jurassic World

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Recently, I watched *Jurassic World*. As crazy as it may seem, I even drew some parallels to the gospel.



Brianna Childs In the movie, the super-smart scientists in the lab at Jurassic World have created a genetically modified dinosaur called Indominus Rex. As mayhem ensues, the main characters face a big problem. They don't know what animal genetics have been used to birth this monster. Time after time, they discover a new trait, but only after she has wreaked a new kind of havoc.

Lately, I've been learning more and more about how we need to know our enemy, too. As followers of Christ, we really are under attack at all times. We need to prepare ourselves just as well as if we were fighting a dinosaur that wanted to eat us. After all, dinosaurs are extinct, and Satan is not. *"For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places"* (Ephesians 5:12).

Satan knows us infinitely well, especially our calling, and he will do

anything possible to keep us from being world-changers. After all, he was there when we were created, and he desires nothing more than to see us wither in the face of adversity.

God knows our deepest calling

But I am reminded that our Father also knows our deepest calling. He is the One who put it there. He “created my inmost being; (He) knit me together in my mother’s womb” (Psalm 139:13). And the same is true for every person on the earth—past, present and future. He has a specific plan for you, and when we turn our lives over to Christ, the Lord’s glory will abound, and we will have the greatest privilege of witnessing the furthering of God’s kingdom. I believe we must say, “No more,” to the prince of darkness. We are “more than conquerors through him who loved us” (Romans 8:37).

I am learning more and more that the potential that lies within every person is insurmountably great when God shows up. Each girl that I am working with at The Vine has undergone tragedy, hardship, pain and abuse.

“But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.” (Ephesians 2:4-7)

Oh, what a phrase that is: “But God.” He has raised us up. He is showing the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us through Christ Jesus. Every single resident and staff member here at The Vine has beautiful gifts and callings directly instilled in them from our Creator.

Abundant life

It's time for us to look at every individual and fight for them. And fight for ourselves. May the Spirit lead us as we encourage one another and build each other up to greater things that will last for eternity. May we know that "the thief comes only to kill and steal and destroy." But may we also know that Christ has come that we may have life and "have it abundantly" (John 10:10).

We will know our enemy fully, that we might fight "the good fight," finish the race and keep the faith (2 Timothy 4:7). Even more so, we will know our God fully, remembering all the while God "raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power" (1 Corinthians 6:14). What a powerful, loving, complex and true God we serve.

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