



Worldview Transformation Series

Season Two ~ Disk 22 ~ Episode 2
Snowboarding: Live on the Edge ~ Freestyle

Video Summary

The snow-covered resort of Snow Valley in Southern California continues to be the backdrop for this fun and impacting episode. In this second part we see Chad, the guys and Candace learn how to master their boards and their bodies. The apostle Paul told Timothy in 2 Timothy 2:2 that he should commit truths to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. As people work on their bodies, ability, and their natural skill, it is important for them not to forget their hearts and their souls, for it is out of these areas that the qualities of faithfulness emerge. Many times, a person can understand the workings of faith and the Gospel but never grasp the meaning or application of it. Those people have head knowledge but have not cultivated faithfulness, which is the soil in which true ability will thrive.

My friend Chris was excited to be a part of this episode, even though he had never previously snowboarded. He did, unfortunately, believe that because of the time he had logged on a video game system, that snowboarding would be a cakewalk for him. The Bible warns in Proverbs 16: 18 about the destructive nature of pride in each of our lives. (8 Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.) It is only when pressure and intensity increases around people that one can determine where they are spiritually, and one can also tell whether they are teachable. Unless any of us actually decide to change, submit, and remain teachable, we will never see long-term success in any area of our lives.

Icebreaker Rubber Snow Rafting

Why should you not raft on snow? As a group of enterprising tourists in Croatia learned, mixing snow or ice and rafting boats can be deadly. Using only a regular rubber boat, and not much protective gear, seven of them decided to go down the slope in what turned out to be quite a spectacular and short ride that ended on a parking lot. Excessive speed forced the boat over the embankment at the end of the slope, ejecting all the passengers and showing once again that pavement and speed make a deadly combination. End result: one dead, one seriously injured.

Primary Lesson Freestyling: Using what you have learned

Chad engages his friends on the mountains of Southern California in the arena of Snowboarding. Using the natural terrain and basic principles of Snowboarding, Chad makes parallels between a person's growth in God and their skill on a snowboard. As with any specialized sport or activity, it is important that all of us have a coach or mentor that teach us the basics necessary to participate safely and with consistency.

Most people have good intentions and always plan to do well, but unless they are teachable, humble and wise, they will never press into the joys of mastering a skill and being able to then give it to others. Whether it is snowboarding, soccer, karate, or any skill in life, the extent of your success is directly related to your ability to teach another what you have learned. There will always be opportunities for excuses and reasons why you should quit and maybe try something else, but in the arena of life and eternal destination, to give up will not only endanger your soul, but will directly impact the life of someone close to you. All discipline at the time may seem uncomfortable and at times a waste, but if you understand that as you progress and learn, you will eventually be at the place where you can not only teach someone else, but enjoy the pleasure of being able to free style on your own.

This is God's desire for all of us. The Apostle Paul said in 1 Corinthians 13:11 "When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things." This was not to say that when a person grows up, that they cannot enjoy life. On the contrary, his comment is designed and crafted to encourage all of us to take responsibility for what we know and where we are going. There are times in our lives when we need to be taught, but we should all grow to the place where we become mature, where we become internally driven by our character, and where we can teach others. As we do this, we will be able to say with confidence, "follow me because I know where I am going!"



Facts, Figures & Illustrations

Snowboarding

- A Freestyle snowboard is wider, more stable, and more forgiving to ride. Also, it is shorter, lighter and (compared with a free-ride board) softer in flex, which makes it easier to turn.
- These characteristics make a freestyle board very responsive to the rider. Consequently, it is the best choice for a beginner.
- The two common primary styles of snowboarding are: 'freestyle/free ride' and 'alpine/carving'. The specialized set of equipment used in each style is different from each other.
- Jumps are the most common cause of spinal injuries among snowboarders.
- There are still ski resorts in the United States that do not allow Snowboarding!
- Competitive snowboarding can allow you to burn between 560 and 1260 calories per hour of competition depending on your age and weight.
- Women in snowboarding are estimated at 27 percent by the Ski Industries of America.
- In the late 70's, Burton Snowboards were created by Jake Burton Carpenter. Today, Burton has become the largest manufacturer of snowboards, gear and snowboard clothing all over the world.



Key Scriptures

(From NKJV, unless otherwise noted)

- Proverbs 16:18** ~ *Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.*
- Proverbs 4:13** ~ *Take firm hold of instruction, do not let go; keep her, for she is your life.*
- Ephesians 5:21** ~ *submitting to one another in the fear of God...*
- Proverbs 24:16** ~ *For a righteous man may fall seven times and rise again, But the wicked shall fall by calamity.*
- Matthew 10:24** ~ *A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master*
- 2 Timothy 1:7** ~ *For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.*
- Proverbs 4:23** ~ *Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life.*
- Matthew 28:19** ~ *Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,*
- 1 John 4:1** ~ *Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.*



Complimentary Stories

Jake Burton: Pioneering the sport of Snowboarding

As the founder and owner of the world's leading snowboarding company, Jake Burton's name is synonymous with snowboarding. Jake's influence on the sport of snowboarding is unrivaled. Since 1977, his company has supported the best riders in the world and created snowboarding gear that sets the standards for the rest of the industry.

After finishing up an economics degree in college in the early 70's, Jake moved to Vermont and cultivated an idea to bring young people back to the slopes. Burton noticed that ski resorts were building large arcades to keep kids occupied while their parents skied. Young people had no interest in the sport. Burton modified the "Snurfer," an early ancestor to the snowboard that included straps for the rider to hold and steer with. Instead of a clunky novelty device, he created a snowboard that was sleek, fast and, most importantly, not your father's alpine skis. There was just one problem: Ski resorts wouldn't allow snowboards.

"They would tell us they'd never seen [a snowboard] before and didn't want us on their hill," he says. "We had to convince them that it was a directional device. It was tough because everyone was a beginner back then. You can imagine a ski resort where everyone on the hill was in their first season."

Burton worked tirelessly, both on his boards and the resorts. In his first year he only sold 300 boards. He had blown through a \$100,000 inheritance he'd received after his mother died when he was 17, and he was working two summer jobs in New York just to keep his fledgling business alive. On one sales trip to the slopes, he actually returned with more boards than he'd brought. "One shop returned some boards I had sold them," he says. Burton was nearing a breaking point.

By year two, Burton had doubled his output, and snowboarding was beginning to catch on. But it wasn't until he convinced a few ski resorts to allow boards on the slopes that his business began to take off. "Getting on their hills was huge," Burton says. "It paved the way for the explosive growth."

This growth points now to an industry with an annual revenue of roughly \$500 million. Burton Snowboards, which is a privately held company, reportedly captures 40 to 70 percent of the market share, depending on the specific category of goods. This is a classic story of a guy who followed his dreams and saw them succeed.

The Greatest Snowboarder in the World?

Shaun Roger White (born September 3, 1986) is an American professional snowboarder and skateboarder. He is a two-time Olympic gold medalist. He rides regular stance, twelve and negative three degrees on his board. White was born with a Tetralogy of Fallot, a congenital heart defect for which he endured two open-heart operations before the age of one. He stands 5'8" (1.73 m) tall. He spent his formative years riding Okemo Mountain and Bear Mountain, small ski resorts found in Ludlow, Vermont, and the San Bernardino Mountains of Southern California.

White also has a skateboard career that developed during the same time he was rising through the snowboard ranks. White quickly drew the eyes of many in the skateboarder scene including professional skateboarder Tony Hawk. At this point Hawk befriended the nine-year-old Shaun at a local skate park and mentored him, helping him turn pro in skateboarding at the age of 17. In February 2009, Red Bull built White a half-pipe completely out of natural snow in the backcountry of Colorado on the backside of Silverton. Incredible sequences of Shaun doing stunts on that half pipe can be found on YouTube.

Source: Wikipedia.org



Discussion Questions

1. Discuss the issue of pride and being unwilling to take correction or direction. If we don't start embracing this early and learn, we will have a hard time in every area of our lives. How can this affect your job, personal life and social life? What are the outcomes of pride? Can you name 3-4 public, historic or present day people who thought they knew it all, did not need help and found themselves in a whole lot of trouble?
2. The Bible says in Proverbs 27:17 "As iron sharpens iron, so a man sharpens the countenance of his friend." Discuss the nature of friendship and how when two people are committed to God and each other, that it is a benefit to each of them. Also bring up the problems associated with having the wrong influences in your life, especially with those who have authority and input into your life. How many have lost their vision and call because they chose to follow the wrong person or group. Discuss the solutions to overcoming negative influencers in your life.
3. Discuss some of the dreams and vision the kids have. Some want to learn a language, be certified in Scuba, travel the world, etc. What needs to happen in their lives to see these dreams become a reality? What are some of the things holding them back? (Fear, fear of failure, personal weakness or being told they can't do something?)

