

“Walking in Faith”

Discipleship 201, Lesson #6

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God--not the result of works, so that no one may boast. Ephesians 2:8-9

Introduction: Faith is the cradle in which the Lord Jesus lays His head, the receptacle of the grace of God. Through faith, the power of God to heal and to make whole is unleashed.

What is Faith?

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Hebrews 11:1

A. Faith is a SUBSTANCE

It is the FOUNDATION upon which we build our lives

B. Faith is a CONVICTION

1. Not everything going on in the universe can be perceived by our SENSES
2. The Greek work means “Title or DEED”
 - a. We have a title to the KINGDOM
 - b. The title is not the property, but the promise to the property.
 - c. The title is only as good as the person assuring it
3. There is a difference between faith and BELIEF
 - a. Belief is a HOPE for the future
 - b. Faith is acting and living ones’ life as though the thing in which one has faith has already been ACQUIRED, even if the manifestation of that object of faith is in the future.
4. Our faith is placed in CHRIST
 - a. Contrary to popular belief, it DOES matter what we believe.
 - b. In other religions (Buddhism, Jehovah Witness, Islam, Latter-Day Saints), salvation depends upon what WE do.
 - c. As Christians, salvation depends upon what GOD does for us.

How can we unleash the power of God through faith?

Jesus answered them, "Have faith in God. Truly I tell you, if you say to this mountain, 'Be taken up and thrown into the sea,' and if you do not doubt in your heart, but believe that what you say will come to pass, it will be done for you. So I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours. "Whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone; so that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses." Mark 11:22-25

A. Have FAITH

Make God the SUBJECT of our faith

B. If **YOU**...

God answers the prayers of **ANYONE** who calls upon Him and asks according to His will.

And this is the boldness we have in him, that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have obtained the requests made of him. I John 5:14-15

C. ...**SAY**

God often waits for an **INVITATION** before He will move our mountain need.

D. Do not **DOUBT**...

Give no place to doubt.

We need to be secure in our relationship with God.

Pray for God to bind Satan and his weapons of doubt.

I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Matthew 16:19

E. Whatever we **ASK**

Put no **LIMITS** on God's ability to bless us.

Of course, our receiving what we ask assumes that we are in right **RELATIONSHIP** with God, and know God's will.

F. **BELIEVE** in our heart

Another description of **FAITH**

Putting our belief in action

...because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. Romans 10:9-10

How to keep a strong Faith

A. Stay in relationship with other **CHRISTIANS**

Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." Matthew 18:19-20

1. Christian faith is not a **PRIVATE** matter

2. When Christ's power is unleashed, it is unleashed in the community known as the **CHURCH**

B. Be diligent and **RELENTLESS**

Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for

people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.' For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'"

Luke 18:1-5

1. When we give up, **SATAN** wins
2. Never give Satan the satisfaction of a **VICTORY**

C. Be **BOLD** before God

Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Hebrews 4:16

1. Remember what Jesus Christ did for you.
2. Our confidence comes not from our own goodness, but from what Jesus has done.

