

LESSON 6

OVERCOMING FEAR WITH FAITH

Q: What are the different ways we exercise faith in everyday living?

"Faith can only be proven by _____."

In the physical world, attack and assault are defended against by physical means. In the spiritual world, attack and assault cannot be defended against by even the most elaborate of physical means. The defense must be a spiritual one – the shield of _____.

Ephesians 6:16



ANCIENT ROMAN SHIELD

- 2 ½' x 4'
- Protected the entire body
- Made with leather stretched over wood with metal at the top and bottom
- Defense against poison and fire arrows

"faith...is belief plus trust. It is resting in the person of God and His Word to us."
(R. Kent Hughes, *Ephesians*)

"Faith is an [active](#) practice built on belief." (Dr. Jeremiah)

1 John 1:4 "And this is the victory that has [overcome](#) the world – our [faith](#)."



FIVE "PEAS" IN A POD to help you _____ your faith:

We need _____ .

We need _____ .

We need _____ .

We need _____ .

We need _____ .

1. To grow our faith, we need **PREACHING**.

"So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God." -Romans 10:17

"Faith deepens by _____ and _____ God's Word."

(Dr. Jeremiah, *Overcomer*)

Isaiah 55:10-11

"For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven,

And do not return there,

But water the earth,

And make it bring forth and bud,

That it may give seed to the sower

And bread to the eater,

So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth;

It shall not return to Me [□]void,

But it shall accomplish what I please,

And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it."

2. To grow our faith, we need **PROBLEMS**.

Don't ask God to _____ your faith without being prepared to _____ problems!

"Believers understand many doctrinal truths in the mind, but those truths seldom make the journey down into the heart except through disappointment, failure, and loss. As a man who seemed about to lose both his career and his family once said to me, "I always knew, in principle, that 'Jesus is all I need' to get through. But you don't really know Jesus is all you need until Jesus is all you have."

(Tim Keller, *Walking With God Through Pain and Suffering*)

God uses our problems to _____ our faith in Him.

3. To grow our faith, we need PEOPLE.

Roman "phalanx"
"Tortoise formation"



"Sometimes God strengthens us when we're all alone in the quiet of our room. But often He strengthens our faith through the words or presence of other people in our lives." (Dr. Jeremiah, *Overcomer*)

How encouraging it is when other believers _____ us in our dark valleys!

"One of the biggest weaknesses of modern, Western Christianity is our focus on individual salvation without a parallel focus on integration into the body of Christ. God never intended for people to follow Christ alone. To grow a faith that dispels your fears, you need other people. Faith is contagious!" (Dr. Jeremiah, *Overcomer*)

4. To grow our faith, we need PURPOSE.

What is your purpose? What is God leading you to do for Him?

- To surrender to foreign missions?
- To call and check on someone who is struggling?
- To ask your pastor where you can serve?
- To plant a church?
- To deliver a meal?

5. To grow our faith, we need PERSPECTIVE.

“Faith must have an _____ . To many people, the important thing is to believe and what you believe is secondary. They have the notion that there is something mystical, magical in the mere act of believing, a sort of holy shazam that transforms simple mortals into Captain Marvels. But the truth is, faith itself has no power. It is not faith that moves mountains, it is God. . . . Biblically speaking, faith, as a mere human activity, possesses no virtue, holds no merit, contains no power. The power of faith lies in its _____ .” (Ron Dunn, *Faith Crisis*)

The Scripture does not tell us to focus on “faith.”

Hebrews 12:2 “[fix] our eyes on _____ f, the author and perfecter of faith”!

“Problems are not big or small in God’s sight. It’s our perspective that needs enlarging so we see God as capable of responding to the faith we have. No matter how small or insufficient you think your faith is, keep praying and trusting and seeking the Lord.” (Dr. Jeremiah, *Overcomer*)

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