

VISION BEYOND BARRIERS | FAITH THROUGH IT!

Core Study Theme: Believe Beyond What I See

1. Lesson Summary & Objectives

The objective of this lesson is to guide participants from an intellectual understanding of scripture to deep spiritual conviction, moving from information to true formation. Using Romans 4 as our foundational lens, this study explores how biblical faith operates when physical circumstances look impossible. Participants will learn to discern between a 'head faith' that relies on reason and a 'belly faith' that anchors in God's promises, enabling them to overcome barriers, cast anxiety, and actively build their lives through spiritual vision.

By the conclusion of this study, participants should be equipped to shift their mindset from fear to faith when facing obstacles, identify and reject the choking influences of worldly cares, and utilize consistent scriptural confession to align their speech with God's final authority.

2. Key Lesson Points & Discussion Guides

Point 1: Believing Beyond What I See (Against All Hope)

True faith does not wait for natural circumstances to improve or for hope to look stronger in the physical realm. Instead, biblical faith produces hope where none exists naturally. When God gives a vision, believers must interpret it through the lens of absolute trust in His word rather than allowing fear or visible conditions to dictate the narrative. The visible storyline is real, but it is never final; God's word holds the ultimate authority.

- **Scripture Focus:** Abraham modeled this by believing God when his situation looked physically dead and impossible.
- **Core Principle:** Faith is the operational engine that transforms information into practical formation.

Discussion Questions: Believing Beyond What I See

Biblical Exposition: According to Romans 4, what does it mean that Abraham 'believed against hope,' and how does this redefine the relationship between faith and circumstances?

Practical Application: What is a specific visible 'barrier' or situation in your life right now that you have been evaluating with fear instead of faith? How can you begin to interpret it through God's word?

Point 2: Head Faith vs. Belly Faith

Head faith is purely intellectual and powered by logic; it only expects and produces what is humanly explainable. When pressure hits, head faith begins to negotiate with circumstances, wavering in doubt. Belly faith, however, is a spiritual reality birthed through deep prayer, meditation, and continuous focus on the word until a solid, inner certainty takes place. Belly faith does not negotiate; it stands firm and talks back to pressure using scripture.

- **Scripture Focus:** Intellectual assent fails under pressure, while spiritual certainty endures and prevails.
- **The Pathway:** Conception requires time spent in prayer, traveling, and internalizing the vision.

Discussion Questions: Head Faith vs. Belly Faith

Biblical Exposition: Based on the contrast between human reasoning and spiritual revelation in Romans 4, why is an intellectual 'head faith' insufficient to birth supernatural promises?

Practical Application: Think of a time when pressure caused you to 'negotiate' God's promises. How can you practice consistent prayer and meditation to move that promise from your head to your 'belly'?

Point 3: The Choke Point — Cares, Riches, and Deception

The enemy uses the worries of this life, the deceitfulness of wealth, and the desire for other things as precise tactical weapons to choke out the word of God and make it unfruitful. To protect the spiritual vision growing within, believers must actively cast their cares onto the Lord rather than carrying them. Furthermore, spiritual alignment requires consistent and vocal confession of God's blessings and promises, rather than constantly speaking about problems and survival.

- **Scripture Focus:** The text explicitly warns that worldly cares will render the word unfruitful if allowed to enter the heart.
- **The Action:** Believers must actively call things that are not as though they were, using the language of faith.

Discussion Questions: The Choke Point

Biblical Exposition: In light of Mark 4:19, how do worldly anxieties and the deceitfulness of riches physically prevent the seed of God's word from maturing and bearing fruit?

Practical Application: What specific care or anxiety have you been carrying and managing on your own? What practical verbal confession can you make today to cast that care and call God's promise instead?

Point 4: Quicken the Dead — Calling Things That Be Not

Abraham's faith was anchored in a profound revelation of God's supreme power to give life to the dead and call non-existent things into being. This faith was proven when he was fully prepared to sacrifice Isaac, completely confident that God was able to raise him back to life. God's word operates like quantum and nano-technology—working deeply in realms beyond human sight or measurement. True boldness comes not from personal strength, but from absolute reliance on God's eternal faithfulness.

- **Scripture Focus:** Abraham demonstrated absolute trust in God's resurrection power on the mountain of sacrifice.
- **The Mechanism:** Faith is the definitive birth canal through which God's grace flows into physical manifestation.

Discussion Questions: Quicken the Dead

Biblical Exposition: How does Abraham's obedience in Genesis 22 demonstrate a practical reliance on the God

who 'quickens the dead and calleth things that be not' as detailed in Romans 4?

Practical Application: What dead or seemingly impossible dream do you need to surrender completely to God, trusting that He has the resurrection power to bring it to life in His perfect way?

3. Full Scripture References for Easy Reference

Romans 4:17 (KJV)

"(As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were."

Romans 4:18 (KJV)

"Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be."

Romans 4:19 (KJV)

"And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about a hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sarah's womb:"

Romans 4:20 (KJV)

"He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God;"

Romans 4:21 (KJV)

"And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform."

Mark 4:19 (KJV)

"And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful."

Genesis 22:8 (KJV)

"And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together."

Genesis 22:12 (KJV)

"And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me."

Hebrews 4:16 (KJV)

"Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need."