

GOT FAITH?

At War – Part 6 Pastor Craig Coulter

Jesus: When I, the Son of Man, return, how many will I find on earth who have faith? (Luke 18:8 NLT)

GOD IS LOOKING FOR FAITHFUL PEOPLE

For the eyes of the Lord search back and forth across the whole earth, <u>looking for people</u> whose hearts are perfect toward him, so that he can <u>show his great power</u> in helping them. (2 Chronicles 16:9 LB)

FAITHFUL PEOPLE ARE HARD TO FIND

Everyone talks about how <u>faithful</u> he is, but it is difficult to find someone who really is! (Proverbs 20:6)

God looks down from heaven at the children of man to see if a single one is wise and one seeks God. But <u>all have proven faithless</u>, all have been <u>corrupted</u>, and not one of them always does right. (Psalm 53:2-3)

FAITHFULNESS IS THE KEY TO VICTORY

Every child of God can <u>defeat the world</u>, and <u>it is our faith</u> that gives us this victory. No one can defeat the world <u>without having faith</u> in Jesus as the Son of God. (1 John 5:4-5 CEV)

SIX TESTS OF MY FAITHFULNESS:

1. GOD USES LITTLE THINGS TO TEST MY INTEGRITY

Whoever is <u>faithful</u> in <u>small</u> <u>matters</u> will be faithful in large ones, and whoever is dishonest in small matters will be dishonest in large ones. (Luke 16:10)

And if you have not been <u>faithful</u> with that which belongs to someone else, who will give you what belongs to you? (Luke 16:12)

2. GOD USES MY TALENTS TO TEST MY UNSELFISHNESS

- Live for yourself
- Live for something greater than yourself

Each one should <u>use whatever gift he has received to serve others</u>, <u>faithfully</u> administering God's grace in its various forms. (1 Peter 4:10)

Now <u>it is required</u> that those who have been given a trust must prove <u>faithful</u>. (1 Corinthians 4:2 NIV)

3. GOD USES TOUGH TIMES TO TEST MY PERSISTENCE

This is why we never give up. Though our bodies are dying, our spirits are being renewed every day. For our present troubles are quite small and won't last very long, but they will produce for us an immeasurably great glory that will last forever! So we don't look at the troubles we can see right now; rather, we look forward to what we have not yet seen. For the troubles we see will soon be over, but the joys to come will last forever! (2 Corinthians 4:16-18 NLT)

Don't get tired of doing what's right. **You WILL** <u>be rewarded</u> when the time is right, if you don't give up. (Galatians 6:9)

4. GOD USES SHORTAGES TO TEST MY GENEROSITY

Jesus: I tell you, <u>use your worldly resources</u> to benefit others and make friends for eternity. In this way, <u>your generosity</u> stores up a reward <u>for you in heaven</u>... BUT if you are <u>unfaithful</u> <u>with your worldly wealth</u>, who will trust you with the <u>true riches of heaven</u>? ... You cannot serve both God and money. (Luke 16:9-14 NLT)

- God gives to generous people!
- Obeying God's vision will bring God's provision!
- When I do all that God tells me to do, He does what I can't do!

5. FAITHFUL PEOPLE BRING FRIENDS TO JESUS

Some men brought to Jesus a paralytic friend, lying on a mat. When Jesus <u>saw their</u> <u>faith</u>, he said to the paralyzed man, 'Take heart, son! Your sins are forgiven.' (Matthew 9:2)

6. FAITHFUL PEOPLE BUILD THE FAITH OF OTHERS

The things you've learned from me in the presence of many witnesses you are to <u>entrust</u> to other faithful people who will also be qualified to pass it on to others. (2 Timothy 2:2)

Peter, Satan has asked to sift you like wheat, but I have prayed for you that <u>your faith</u> <u>will not completely fail</u>. So after you have repented and turned to me again, strengthen and <u>build up the faith of your brothers</u>. (Luke 22:31-32 LB)