

I Believe

Week One We Examined

Principle #1 ~ Believe The Divine Providence of God

Principle #2 ~ Do Not Let FEAR Alter What You Believe

Principle #3 ~ There Are Areas Where I Believe.... But Other Areas....Not So Much...

Principle # 4 ~ Your Relationship Doesn't Give You YOUR DESIRED RESULTS

Principle #5 ~ What We KNOW vs. What WE NEED?

Principle #6 ~ Monitor Your Company, That Affects What You Believe

*Principle #7 ~ In The Midst Of Disappointment,
We Need REASSURANCE of Who and What We Believe*

Week Two We Discussed ~ The Benefits Of Believing

Romans 15:13 (NKJV)

*13 Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace **IN BELIEVING**,
that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.*

The Source ~ God of All Hope

The Supply ~ Fill Us

The Substance ~ With Joy and Peace

The Strength/Stability ~ We can Abound in Hope

The Sustainer ~ By The Power Of Holy Spirit

Last Week We Discussed....

Challenge #1 ~ I Believe What God Says... But I lose Confidence in what I See....

Challenge #2 ~ I Become So Dependent on Seeing....That I Stop Believing

Challenge #3 ~ Can You Keep Believing... As You Trust God's Timing

Why the Delay?

- 1. To Develop Perseverance In Us {Keep Believing Training}*
- 2. To Ensure That God Gets The Glory {Nobody But God Testimony}*
- 3. To Deepen Our Trust In God {Can't have Supernatural Favor with Shallow Faith}*

Introduction

One of the challenges to **BELIEVING** is **LEARNING** To **TAKE GOD AT HIS WORD**

We must **BELIEVE** that God's Word Is True

We **can't trust** everything we read on the Internet

We **can't trust** everything we hear on T.V.

We **can't trust** everything we hear from politicians, preachers, or popular people

But **We Can Trust** The Word of God

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NLT)

16 All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to **teach us what is true** and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right.

17 God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.

Numbers 23:19 (NLT)

19 God is not a man, so he does not lie. He is not human, so he does not change his mind.

Has he ever spoken and failed to act? Has he ever promised and not carried it through?

Isaiah 55:11 (NLT)

11 It is the same with **MY WORD**. I send it out, and it **ALWAYS PRODUCES FRUIT**.

It will accomplish **ALL I WANT IT TO**, and **IT WILL PROSPER EVERYWHERE I SEND IT**.

GOD'S WORD IS TRUTH ~ We must learn to **TAKE GOD AT HIS WORD**

Our Breakthrough Comes When We Take God At His Word

Our Behavior Changes When We Take God At His Word

Our Breakthrough Comes When We Take God At His Word

John 4:46-53 (NIV)

46 Once more he visited Cana in Galilee, where he had turned the water into wine. And there was a certain royal official whose son lay sick at Capernaum. 47 When this man heard that Jesus had arrived in Galilee from Judea, he went to him and begged him to come and heal his son, who was close to death. 48 "Unless you people see miraculous signs and wonders," Jesus told him, "you will never BELIEVE."

49 The royal official said, "Sir, come down before my child dies."

*50 Jesus replied, "YOU MAY GO. YOUR SON WILL LIVE."
THE MAN TOOK JESUS AT HIS WORD AND DEPARTED.*

51 While he was still on the way, his servants met him with the news that his boy was living.

52 When he inquired as to the time when his son got better, they said to him, "The fever left him yesterday at the seventh hour." 53 Then the father realized that this was the exact time at which Jesus had said to him, "Your son will live." SO HE AND ALL HIS HOUSEHOLD BELIEVED.

Predicament ~ He is in need of a Breakthrough

Protocol ~ Take Your Issue To Jesus

Procedure ~ Come and Heal

Problem ~ You Need To See To Believe

Promise ~ Go, Your Son Will Live

To Get The Breakthrough ~ Take Him At His Word

Our Breakthrough Comes When We Take God At His Word

2 Kings 5:2-12 (NLT)

2 At this time Aramean raiders had invaded the land of Israel, and among their captives was a young girl who had been given to Naaman's wife as a maid. 3 One day the girl said to her mistress, "I wish my master would go to see the prophet in Samaria. He would heal him of his leprosy." 4 So Naaman told the king what the young girl from Israel had said. 5 "Go and visit the prophet," the king of Aram told him. "I will send a letter of introduction for you to take to the king of Israel." So Naaman started out, carrying as gifts 750 pounds of silver, 150 pounds of gold, and ten sets of clothing. 6 The letter to the king of Israel said: "With this letter I present my servant Naaman. I want you to heal him of his leprosy." 9 So Naaman went with his horses and chariots and waited at the door of Elisha's house.

10 But Elisha sent a messenger out to him with this message: "Go and wash yourself seven times in the Jordan River. Then your skin will be restored, and you will be healed of your leprosy."

11 But Naaman became angry and stalked away. "I thought he would certainly come out to meet me!" he said. "I expected him to wave his hand over the leprosy and call on the name of the LORD his God and heal me!

12 Aren't the rivers of Damascus, better than any of the rivers of Israel? Why shouldn't I wash in them and be healed?" So Naaman turned and went away in a rage.

Predicament ~ He is in need of a Breakthrough

Protocol ~ Take Your Issue To God

Procedure ~ Take A Letter From Authority, Gold, Silver, and Clothing

Problem ~ Obedient To A Simple Solution

Promise ~ Go Wash And You Will Be Restored

To Get The Breakthrough ~ Take Him At His Word

Our Breakthrough Comes When We Take God At His Word

2 Kings 5:13-15 (NLT)

*13 But his officers tried to reason with him and said, “Sir, if the prophet had told you to do something very difficult, wouldn’t you have done it? So **you should certainly obey him when he says simply, ‘Go and wash and be cured!’**”*

14 So Naaman went down to the Jordan River and dipped himself seven times, as the man of God had instructed him. And his skin became as healthy as the skin of a young child’s, and he was healed!

*15 Then Naaman and his entire party went back to find the man of God. They stood before him, and Naaman said, “**NOW I KNOW** that there is no God in all the world except in Israel.*

*You can **choose** to stay bitter and angry...*

*You can **choose** to do it your way...*

*You can **choose** to come up with better ways to do things...*

But

To Get The Breakthrough ~ Take Him At His Word

Our Breakthrough Comes When We Take God At His Word

Luke 18:35-43 (NLT)

35 As Jesus approached Jericho, a blind beggar was sitting beside the road.

36 When he heard the noise of a crowd going past, he asked what was happening.

37 They told him that Jesus the Nazarene was going by. 38 So he began shouting, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" 39 "Be quiet!" the people in front yelled at him. But he only shouted louder, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" 40 When Jesus heard him, he stopped and ordered that the man be brought to him. As the man came near,

Jesus asked him, 41 "What do you want me to do for you?" "Lord," he said, "I want to see!"

42 And Jesus said, "ALL RIGHT, RECEIVE YOUR SIGHT! Your faith has healed you."

43 Instantly the man could see, and he followed Jesus, praising God. And all who saw it praised God, too.

The Cost Of Comparison

John 9:1-11 (NLT)

1 As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth.

2 "Rabbi," his disciples asked him, "why was this man born blind? Was it because of his own sins or his parents' sins?" 3 "It was not because of his sins or his parents' sins," Jesus answered. "This happened so the power of God could be seen in him.

6 Then he spit on the ground, made mud with the saliva, and spread the mud over the blind man's eyes. 7 He told him, "Go wash yourself in the pool of Siloam" (Siloam means "sent").

So the man went and washed and came back seeing!

To Get The Breakthrough ~ Take Him At His Word

Our Breakthrough Comes When We Take God At His Word

John 2:1-8 (NIV)

*1 On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, 2 and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. 3 When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no more wine." 4 "Dear woman, why do you involve me?" Jesus replied. "My time has not yet come."
5 His mother said to the servants, "**DO WHATEVER HE TELLS YOU.**"
6 Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons.
7 Jesus said to the servants, "**FILL THE JARS WITH WATER**"; *so they filled them to the brim.*
8 Then he told them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet." **THEY DID SO...***

*Notice Mary didn't try to **Solve the Problem...** Directed Them To Jesus {**THE WORD**}*

*Every **PROBLEM** Presents An **OPPORTUNITY** For A Miracle
Your **Obedience** To **HIS WORD** Enables You To **Maximize Your Opportunities***

To Get The Breakthrough ~ Take Him At His Word

Our Behavior Changes When We Take God At His Word

When I believe what God has promised, it shapes my

- 1. My Attitude*
- 2. My Actions*
- 3. My Anticipation*

Example

*Your supervisor comes into the office and says to you, **I am giving you a promotion,** you will receive an increase in salary of \$50,000, a company car, off on weekends, Lighter workload, a larger office and input in company decisions....*

*Just **hearing** what he said....*

*You are excited, overjoyed, enthusiastic {**attitude**}*

*You come to work everyday {**action**}*

*You look forward to a bigger check, better opportunities {**anticipation**}*

When I believe what God has promised, it shapes my MY ATTITUDE

James 1:2-4

2 Dear brothers and sisters, *when troubles come your way, CONSIDER IT AN OPPORTUNITY FOR GREAT JOY.*

3 For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow.

4 So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, *you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.*

John 16:33 (NKJV)

33 These things I have spoken to you, *that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but BE OF GOOD CHEER, I have overcome the world."*

Matthew 6:34 (NLT)

34 "So *DON'T WORRY ABOUT TOMORROW, for tomorrow will bring its own worries. Today's trouble is enough for today.*

Philippians 4:6-7 (NIV)

6 *DO NOT BE ANXIOUS ABOUT ANYTHING*, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. 7 *And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

When I Believe What God Says... It Affects My ATTITUDE

When I believe what God has promised, it shapes my MY ACTIONS

Psalm 84:11 (NLT)

*11 For the LORD God is our sun and our shield. He gives us grace and glory.
The LORD will withhold no good thing from those WHO DO WHAT IS RIGHT.*

Luke 8:17 (NASB)

*17 "For nothing is hidden that will not become evident,
nor anything secret that will not be known and come to light.*

Romans 12:19 (NASB)

*19 NEVER TAKE YOUR OWN REVENGE, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written,
"VENGEANCE IS MINE , I WILL REPAY," says the Lord.*

Matthew 6:33 (NIV)

33 But SEEK FIRST HIS KINGDOM AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Joshua 1:7-8 (NIV)

*7 Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to
the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. 8 Do not let this Book of the Law depart from
your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it.
THEN YOU WILL BE PROSPEROUS AND SUCCESSFUL.*

When I believe what God has promised, it shapes my

MY ANTICIPATION

1 Corinthians 2:9 (NLT)

*9 That is what the Scriptures mean when they say, "No eye has seen, no ear has heard,
AND NO MIND HAS IMAGINED WHAT GOD HAS PREPARED FOR THOSE WHO LOVE HIM."*

Galatians 6:9 (NKJV)

*9 And let us not grow weary while doing good,
FOR IN DUE SEASON WE SHALL REAP IF WE DO NOT LOSE HEART.*

Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)

*11 For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD,
"PLANS TO PROSPER YOU AND NOT TO HARM YOU, PLANS TO GIVE YOU HOPE AND A FUTURE.*

Romans 8:28 (NIV)

*28 And we know that in all things **GOD WORKS FOR THE GOOD OF THOSE WHO LOVE HIM,**
who have been called according to his purpose.*

Closing Thought

Our Breakthrough Comes When We Take God At His Word

Our Behavior Changes When We Take God At His Word

When I believe What God Has Promised, It Shapes My

- *My Attitude*
- *My Actions*
- *My Anticipation*

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