

Prevailing Faith - Pt 1

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I. Introduction

A. This year is a year of great promise. We will celebrate our 20 th anniversary of 24/7, worship and prayer on February 12 th , 2026. It's a wonder in the grace of God that this milestone is here.

B. In the fall, the Lord began to impress several of us that we needed to remember the decades of promises He has given to us as a spiritual family. Promises like seeing 24/7 in five locations across the city, seeing racism and dead religion torn down and racial reconciliation and revival breakthrough, becoming a beachhead for revival, with thousands upon thousands swept into the kingdom.

C. Our elders and several of our prophetic leaders felt the Lord was speaking to us that we were to believe for the fulfilment of 20 years of prophetic promises to come to pass in the season of celebrating 20 years of night and day worship and prayer.

D. As we prayed and considered how we were to structure the beginning of the year and our series leading up to our anniversary, we really wanted to get aligned as a spiritual family, all going the same direction together to step into a unity of faith, that apprehends the promises God has given us.

E. So, unto that end, we are going to take 5 weeks and talk about Prevailing Faith. We are going to hit this topic from many different angles, some that you likely haven't heard before. We will talk about what faith is and what it is not. How faith works. What are the biblical expressions of faith? What are key hindrances to faith. And faith in prevailing prayer. This series is going strengthen, challenge, and purify your faith.

F. And with that said we are calling our whole spiritual family to a community wide fast that will start January 12 th . It will be a 20 day

fast, not 21 days, 20 days for 20 years! We encourage you to fast however you feel led. But let's all do something.

G. I don't want to overstate or hype anything at all, but if we are believing for promises of the last two decades to come to pass in this coming season, this may be the most important fast we have engaged in as a spiritual family.

II. Clearing the Cache

A. Oftentimes what we have been taught or have thought we understood about God is the very thing that keeps us from actually experiencing the depth, richness, and power of God. I have been mind-blown so many times by how God reintroduces Himself to me shattering my preconceived notions of who I thought He was.

B. As we get into this study, I believe we are going to have a reinvigoration of faith and be encouraged to believe big again. I want to call us into radical faith that apprehends the promises as well as a persevering faith that stands the test of time. I believe God wants to give us a faith that prevails!

C. Let's approach this study with an open heart to hear what the Spirit says to us about faith and how He wants to re-write the script of our hearts to bring us into a more vibrant and powerful expression of faith.

III. Defining Faith

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

—Hebrews 11:1

A. When you look into the Greek words in this verse you find that there is a little more texture to this sentence than at first glance.

B. A good paraphrase would be, "Faith is being confident that what God has promised is true and being assured it's real, even though we haven't seen it yet."

C. Example: If I tell you my black Toyota Tundra is parked outside. You believe what I said is true and therefore are convinced that my truck is

really there, even though you haven't walked outside to look at it yet... that's faith.

D. A solid biblical example of this is Abraham. God told him that he would be the father of many nations, though he was 99 years old and his wife Sarah was 90 years old. Before he ever had a son, God said to Him, "I have made you a father of many nations" (Gen 17:4-5).

Yet He did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but grew strong in faith, giving glory to God, 21 and being fully assured that what God had promised, He was able also to perform.

—Romans 4:20-21

E. When it says He was fully assured, that is faith. Abraham was trusting that what God said was true and that what He said was real, even though He had not seen it. Abraham believed before Isaac was born, so much so that he ordered his life around what God had promised, even when the circumstances hadn't caught up. That's faith.

F. So for believers, when God says something about us, believing that it is true and that it is real is the core of faith.

For we walk by faith, not by sight.

—2 Corinthians 5:7

G. Faith isn't a feeling. Faith doesn't deny what it sees, it just walks by an elevated set of truths. When my feelings or the circumstances are one way, but God's promises are pointing another direction, we don't go by how it looks or how we feel, we go by what God has promised.

H. When Paul says, "if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved." (Rom 10:9-10) I believe that. When He says, "For by grace you have been saved through faith...not of works" (Eph 2:8-9). I believe I'm saved by grace through faith.

- There are many days when I wake up in the morning that I don't necessarily "feel" saved. I look at myself in the mirror and I don't necessarily "look" saved.

- But I don't go by what I feel or how I look. I go by what He said. If He said I am saved by grace through faith, not of my own works, then guess what, I can wake up in the morning and look really rough and feel really rough and according to the word of God I am still saved.

IV. How to Get Faith

A. Now let's give an example of how faith comes.

So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

—Romans 10:17

B. Let's go back to the example of my truck. When I told you my Toyota was parked outside, you wouldn't know that unless I told you. You can't see it from where you're sitting. But when you heard me say it, you had something to believe. And If I go on to tell you that it's a 2003, has a bench front seat that feels like a lazy boy and it's covered in sap because I park it under a pine tree, your confidence increases – Not because you have seen my truck, but because you heard me say it. In the same way, faith comes when we read God's word and the more we hear the more we believe. We believe not because we have seen, but because we have heard. That's why Paul says, "Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

C. This is why it is critical to fill your heart with the word of God. The more you read the word, study the word, meditate on the word, pray the word, the more faith will rise in your heart.

V. What Faith Does

A. Faith receives what God has already provided. It is essential to understand that we don't create things through faith, instead we receive what God has already provided by faith. This works for salvation, healing, deliverance, provision, breakthrough, and all the promises of God.

B. Abraham didn't decide he wanted to be a father and began to "manifest" being a father. He believed He was a father because God had already said he was a father.

C. Everything God has promised is already provided even if it is not yet seen. Faith allows us to receive what God has made available by His kindness and grace.

D. When we live by faith, we order and align our lives around what God has said is true. We are convinced that it is real, even though we haven't seen it.

E. A key example is how we live day to day. Believers are to live by faith that the kingdom of God is coming in fullness and that we are citizens of that kingdom (Phil 3:20, Heb 13:14, Heb 11:10) We are not to be anchored to this age but live as though we know we are only passing through. When we believe this, we will order our lives around the fact that there are ages to come and that this age is fading away.

F. We're living in a time of the changing of the guard. The kingdoms of this world are becoming the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ and He shall reign forever. In His first coming Jesus initiated His reign, in His second coming He is going to consummate it. We live this life by faith in His coming reign, knowing that it is true and that it is real. This is biblical Christianity. This is biblical faith.