

Blessing
Blessing Builds Your Faith
Discover Church
Mark Phillips
2/18/24

*“Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.”
Hebrews 11:1*

“And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.” Hebrews 11:6

Faith = Believing God’s promises even when you don’t see it physically.

“Some time later, Ben-Hadad king of Aram mobilized his entire army and marched up and laid siege to Samaria. There was a great famine in the city; the siege lasted so long that a donkey’s head sold for eighty shekels of silver, and a quarter of a cab of seed pods for five shekels. As the king of Israel was passing by on the wall, a woman cried to him, “Help me, my lord the king!” The king replied, “If the Lord does not help you, where can I get help for you? From the threshing floor? From the winepress?” Then he asked her, “What’s the matter?” She answered, “This woman said to me, ‘Give up your son so we may eat him today, and tomorrow we’ll eat my son.’ So we cooked my son and ate him. The next day I said to her, ‘Give up your son so we may eat him,’ but she had hidden him.” When the king heard the woman’s words, he tore his robes. As he went along the wall, the people looked, and they saw that, under his robes, he had sackcloth on his body. He said, “May God deal with me, be it ever so severely, if the head of Elisha son of Shaphat remains on his shoulders today!” Now Elisha was sitting in his house, and the elders were sitting with him. The king sent a messenger ahead, but before he arrived, Elisha said to the elders, “Don’t you see how this murderer is sending someone to cut off my head? Look, when the messenger comes, shut the door and hold it shut against him. Is not the sound of his master’s footsteps behind him?” While he was still talking to them, the messenger came down to him. The king said, “This disaster is from the Lord. Why should I wait for the Lord any longer?” 2 Kings 6:24-33

Three Realities of Faith

1. When things are **really bad**, it is hard to have **faith**

A lack of faith causes us to forget our past victories and our past blessings

2. Exercise Faith to overcome **panic**

“Elisha replied, “Hear the word of the Lord. This is what the Lord says: About this time tomorrow, a seah of the finest flour will sell for a shekel and two seahs of barley for a shekel at the gate of Samaria.” The officer on whose arm the king was leaning said to the man of God, “Look, even if the Lord should open the floodgates of the heavens, could this happen?” “You will see it with your own eyes,” answered Elisha, “but you will not eat any of it!” 2 Kings 7:1-2

3. Faith doesn't always seem **reasonable**

“Then the people went out and plundered the camp of the Arameans. So a seah of the finest flour sold for a shekel, and two seahs of barley sold for a shekel, as the Lord had said. Now the king had put the officer on whose arm he leaned in charge of the gate, and the people trampled him in the gateway, and he died, just as the man of God had foretold when the king came down to his house. It happened as the man of God had said to the king: “About this time tomorrow, a seah of the finest flour will sell for a shekel and two seahs of barley for a shekel at the gate of Samaria.” The officer had said to the man of God, “Look, even if the Lord should open the floodgates of the heavens, could this happen?” The man of God had replied, “You will see it with your own eyes, but you will not eat any of it!” And that is exactly what happened to him, for the people trampled him in the gateway, and he died.” 2 Kings 7:16-20

Three Lessons on Faith

1. Extreme **Doubt** keeps one from the **Blessing** of faith
2. God delivers on His **promises!**

“Lord, I have heard the news about you; I am amazed at what you have done. Lord, do great things once again in our time; make those things happen again in our own days. Even when you are angry, remember to be kind.” Habakkuk 3:2

3. God's Blessings builds your **faith**

“The Lord be exalted, who delights in the well-being of his servant.” Psalm 35:27

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Three Realities of Faith

4. When things are _____, it is hard to have _____
5. Exercise Faith to overcome _____
6. Faith doesn't always seem _____

Three Lessons on Faith

4. Extreme _____ keeps one from the _____ of faith
5. God delivers on His _____!
6. God's Blessings builds your _____

Scripture: Hebrews 11:1; Hebrews 11:6; 2 Kings 6; 2 Kings 7; Habakkuk 3:2; Psalm 35:27