

I. Introduction/Review

A. Session one – The Measure of Faith

1. **Romans 12:3 (KJV)** – *For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith*
2. **God has given to every person the measure (A specific portion of faith).**
3. **This defined amount of faith that God deposits in every person is the beginning measure of faith.**
It is sufficient for beginning our faith life, but it is not supposed to remain at the beginning stage.

B. It is not up to God to grow our faith. It is up to us to grow our faith.

1. **Romans 10:17 (NKJV)** – *So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God*
2. **It is our responsibility to feed our faith and act by faith.**

C. Faith is never stationary. It is either growing or diminishing.

D. God gives us the beginning measure of faith, but we need to utilize His word to build and develop our faith, so our measure of faith is always increasing.

E. When the need arises to apply your faith, it is important that you have the right measure of faith.

1. It is important that you know your measure of faith. What you can believe for, and for what you cannot believe.



Romans 12:3a (NKLV) – *For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly*

Romans 12:3a (NLT) – *Do not think you are better than you really are. Be honest in your evaluation of yourselves.*

2. If you get out beyond your measure of faith, you will fail. If you stay within your measure of faith of faith you will succeed every time.

F. Do not wait until a crisis to begin developing the measure your faith.
It is possible for the crisis to develop faster than your faith can develop.

II. Increasing the Measure of Faith

A. How we treat our beginning measure of faith determines where our faith ends up.

1. The Honor Principle:

1 Samuel 2:30 (NKJV) – *Therefore the LORD God of Israel says: 'I said indeed that your house and the house of your father would walk before Me forever.' But now the LORD says: 'Far be it from Me; for those who honor Me I will honor, and those who despise Me shall be lightly esteemed*

- a. God honors those who honors him
- b. Those who despise (lightly honor) God will be lightly esteemed.
- c. Instead of being blessed and increasing in the provision of God, you will be decreased and diminished – living life beneath what it could be.
- d. To honor God is to honor what is important to him.
- e. When you honor what is important to him – (His thoughts, His ways, His desires, His likes, His dislikes) – He shows up stronger in your life.

2. We should **ESTEEM** the beginning measure of faith that God has poured into us by growing and developing it to the next level.

What have you done with the beginning measure of faith?

3. **Scriptures to consider.**

- a. **Matthew 5:6 (NKJV)** – *Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled*
- b. **Proverbs 8:17 (NKJV)** – *I love those who love me, and those who seek me diligently will find me*
- c. **Psalm 14:2 (NKJV)** – *The LORD looks down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there are any who understand, who seek God*
- d. **Hebrews 11:6 (NKJV)** – *But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him*
Hebrews 11:6 (YLT) – *He becomes a rewarder to those seeking him*
- e. **Mark 4:24-25 (NKJV)** – *²⁴Then He said to them, “Take heed what you hear. With the same measure you use, it will be measured to you; and to you who hear, more will be given. ²⁵For whoever has, to him more will be given; but whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him*
- Luke “Take heed HOW you hear.”
- How and What you hear are both important.
Mark 4:24-25 (GWT) – *He went on to say, “Pay attention to what you’re listening to! [Knowledge] will be measured out to you by the measure [of attention] you give. This is the way knowledge increases*
Pastor’s Note: I determine what I Receive by Honoring the measure of faith given to me – by giving time and attention to it.

B. Faith as a Seed

1. **Luke 17:5-6 (NKJV)** – *⁵And the apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith.” ⁶So the Lord said, “If you have faith as a mustard seed, you can*



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say to this mulberry tree, 'Be pulled up by the roots and be planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

- a. People have used this scripture to make excuses for having little faith.
- b. It is acceptable to begin with little faith, but Jesus never intended for our faith to stay at the same level.

2. The Parable of the Growing Seed

Mark 4:26-29 (NKJV) – ²⁶And He said, “The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground, ²⁷and should sleep by night and rise by day, and the seed should sprout and grow, he himself does not know how. ²⁸For the earth yields crops by itself: first the blade, then the head, after that the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the grain ripens, immediately he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come.”

- a. **The things of the Kingdom of God work as seed.**
- b. **Seeds are useless unless they are planted.**
- c. **Seeds are useless unless they grow.**

3. The Parable of the Mustard Seed

Mark 4: 30-32 (NKJV) – ³⁰Then He said, “To what shall we liken the kingdom of God? Or with what parable shall we picture it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed which, when it is sown on the ground, is smaller than all the seeds on earth; ³²but when it is sown, it grows up and becomes greater than all herbs, and shoots out large branches, so that the birds of the air may nest under its shade

- a. A mustard seed is useless unless it grows.
- b. There is no fruit or harvest from the seed until it has grown and mature – large enough for the birds to nest under its shade.
- c. Faith as a mustard seed must be planted.
- d. Faith as a mustard seed must grow if you are to reap the harvest from it.
- e. Faith that is not planted will not produce – just like unplanted mustard seed would never produce.

