

FAITH BASICS 101 – Session 3 – How Faith Receives

Learning How to Put Your Faith to Work

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I. Review

A. Why Faith?

Faith is God's chosen tool by which we receive the things that he has provided to us.

B. The Function of Faith

1. Faith receives what God has already provided
2. Faith is not used to move God
3. Biblical asking – *To ask for that which has already been granted to us through our covenant in Jesus – Not from a begging or bargaining position.*

II. How Faith Receives what God has Already Promised

A. The Example of Abraham

Romans 4:16-22 (NLT) – ¹⁶ So the promise is received by faith. It is given as a free gift. And we are all certain to receive it, whether or not we live according to the law of Moses, if we have faith like Abraham's. For Abraham is the father of all who believe. ¹⁷ That is what the Scriptures mean when God told him, "I have made you the father of many nations."^[a] This happened because Abraham believed in the God who brings the dead back to life and who creates new things out of nothing. ¹⁸ Even when there was no reason for hope, Abraham kept hoping—believing that he would become the father of many nations. For God had said to him, "That's how many descendants you will have!"^[b] ¹⁹ And Abraham's faith did not weaken, even though, at about 100 years of age, he figured his body was as good as dead—and so was Sarah's womb. ²⁰ Abraham never wavered in believing God's promise. In fact, his faith grew stronger, and in this he brought glory to God. ²¹ He was fully

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convinced that God is able to do whatever he promises. ²² And because of Abraham's faith, God counted him as righteous.

1. The promise is received by faith (Vs 16)
2. The promises are given as FREE GIFTS
3. Abraham's Promise "I have made thee the father of many nations"
4. **Genesis 12:1-2 (KJV)** – *¹Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: ²And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:*
5. Abraham refused to waver – agreeing with his body that spoke out against the promise of God
6. Abraham became fully convinced that What God had promised, he was able to perform it (Vs 21) KJV = Fully Persuaded
7. His faith grew stronger brining glory to God
8. **Romans 4:20 (KJV)** – *He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, **giving glory to God***

B. The Process of Using Faith to Receive

1. Faith begins with a Promise
 - a. Faith comes by hearing the Word of God = Romans 10:17
 - b. The majority of time spent during a *Fight of Faith* will be given to SOWING the seed of the Word of God (Faith Development)
 - c. Faith is only as strong as the Word on which it stands
 - d. Faith can only receive as the Word of God becomes REAL to us in our heart.
 - e. Many are confusing biblical faith with unassured hope

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- f. Because I believe GOD CAN doesn't mean that I am exercising Bible faith.
- g. Because I believe GOD IS IN CONTROL doesn't mean I am exercising Bible Faith
- h. Remember, even the devils believe – James 2:19
- i. **2 Corinthians 2:20 (KJV)** – *For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us*
- j. **2 Peter 1:3-4 (KJV)** – ³*According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:*
⁴*Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.*

2. Faith BELIEVES the Promise

- a. By FAITH we believe the promise vs circumstances
- b. By FAITH we BELIEVE when we pray
- c. **Mark 11:23-24 (KJV)** – ²³*For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.* ²⁴*Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them*

When did Jesus say to Believe? When you Pray!

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- d. When we believe our conversation should change in regard to our circumstances
 - i. Real faith doesn't continue to speak against what we have believed for in prayer
 - ii. Real faith doesn't continue to speak negativity
 - iii. Real faith will begin to respond in agreement with what God says
 - iv. Our faith is standing on what God says
 - v. When our faith is truly founded upon what God says, our mouth will reveal it.
 - vi. **Luke 6:45 (KJV)** – *A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh*

3. Faith says Thank You!

A. **Romans 4:20 (KJV)** – *He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, **giving glory to God***

Romans 4:20 (GNT) – *His faith did not leave him, and he did not doubt God's promise; his faith filled him with power, and he gave praise to God.*

1. As Abraham believed God – He began to Thank/Praise God
2. Abraham's praise/thanksgiving came prior to seeing the manifestation of a son
3. Abraham's praise/Thanksgiving was based on the promise not the manifestation

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B. Put Judah in Front

1. **Judges 20:18 (KJV)** – *And the children of Israel arose, and went up to the house of God, and asked counsel of God, and said, Which of us shall go up first to the battle against the children of Benjamin? And the LORD said, Judah shall go up first.*
2. Judah = Heb – Give Thanks – Praise = demonstrative praise
3. God's Battle Plan = Do your shouting before you ever see the victory in the natural – Praise/Thanks based on HIS promise vs natural circumstances = THIS IS REAL FAITH! Jehoshaphat

C. When do you say Thank you?

1. **Philippians 4:6 (KJV)** – *Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God*
2. **Philippians 4:6 (NIV)** – *Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God*
3. When do you say Thank you? _____