#### ALL IS WELL Living the Faith Life May 14, 2023

Say to the person next to you, "All Is Well"...

Is that how you talk? Is that how you think? Is that how you feel?

No, most of us, most of the time think & feel all is not well...

We think doubt, worry, anxiety, stress, anger, condemnation, guilt, pain, pressure, sickness, lazy, selfish, hopeless, helpless, weak, timid, **fear** 

All of this is the opposite of the faith life...

Hebrews 11:6a And it is impossible to please God without *faith*... Hebrews 11:6 TPT And w/out *faith* living w/in us it would be impossible to please God. For we come to God in *faith* knowing that He's real & that He rewards the *faith* of those who passionately seek Him.

# We are absolutely confident in God's readiness to respond to our faith.

**Romans 1:17** This Good News tells us how God makes us right in His sight. It's accomplished from start to finish by *faith*. The Scriptures say, "It's through *faith* that a righteous person has life." (NKJV "...the just shall live by *faith*.")

### God is our source for the power of faith.

**Mark 11:22b** ...Have *faith* in God. 23 I tell you the truth, you can say to this mountain, 'May you be lifted up & thrown into the sea,' & it will happen. But you must **really believe it** will happen & have no doubt in your heart. (**NKJV** *he who believes that those things he says will be done; he will have whatever he says*) 24 I tell you; you can pray for anything, & if you believe that you've received it, it will be yours.

As Jesus followers, we believe that we will have what we ask in prayer when we pray for God's will to be done; God will accomplish His will. Moving mountains is a universal symbol of doing something that appears to be impossible. The point is, that dependent trust in God, or faith, will accomplish humanly impossible things through prayer.

Let's not doubt God's ability to do what we ask, since God can do anything & we pray God's will. We believe that God will grant our request. We don't have a divided heart. As Holy Spirit filled Jesus followers, our faith is that our requests will come to pass because it is God's will.

2 Kings 4:8 ESV One day Elisha went on to Shunem, where a wealthy woman lived, who urged him to eat some food. Whenever he passed that way, he would turn in there to eat food. 9 She said to her husband, "Behold now, I know that this is a holy man of God who is continually passing our way. 10 Let's make a small room on the roof w/ walls & put there for him a bed, a table, a chair, & a lamp, so that whenever he comes to us, he can go in there." 11 One day he came there, & he turned into the chamber & rested there. 12 He said to Gehazi his servant, "Call this Shunammite." When he had called her, she stood before him. 13 He said to him, "Say now to her, 'See, you've taken all this trouble for us; what is to be done for you? Would you have a word spoken on your behalf to the king or to the commander of the army?" She answered, "I dwell among my own people." 14 He said, "What then is to be done for her?" Gehazi answered, "Well, she has no son, & her husband is old." 15 He said, "Call her." When he had called her, she stood in the doorway. 16 He said, "At this season, about this time next year, you shall embrace a son." And she said, "No, my lord, O man of God; do not lie to your servant." 17 But the woman conceived, & she bore a son about that time the following spring, as Elisha had said to her.

18 When the child had grown, he went out one day to his father among the reapers. 19 He said to his father, "Oh, my head, my head!" The father said to his servant, "Carry him to his mother." 20 When he had lifted him & brought him to his mother, the child sat on her lap till noon, & then he died. 21 And she went up & laid him on the bed of the man of God & shut the door behind him & went out. 22 Then she called to her husband & said,

"Send me one of the servants & one of the donkeys, that I may quickly go to the man of God & come back again." 23 He said, "Why will you go to him today? It is neither new moon nor Sabbath." (Holy days) She said, "All is well." 24 Then she saddled the donkey, & she said to her servant, "Urge the animal on; don't slacken the pace for me unless I tell you." 25 So she set out & came to the man of God at Mount Carmel. When the man of God saw her coming, he said to Gehazi his servant, "Look, there's the Shunammite. 26 Run at once to meet her & say to her, 'Is all well w/ you? Is all well w/ your husband? Is all well w/ the child?" She answered, "All is well." 27 When she came to the mountain to the man of God, she caught hold of his feet. Gehazi came to push her away. But the man of God said, "Leave her alone, for she's in bitter distress, & the Lord has hidden it from me & has not told me." 28 Then she said, "Did I ask my lord for a son? Did I not say, 'Do not deceive me?'" 29 He said to Gehazi, "Tie up your garment & take my staff in your hand & go. If you meet anyone, do not greet him, & if anyone greets you, do not reply. And lay my staff on the face of the child." child." 30 Then the mother of the child said, "As the Lord lives & as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So he arose & followed her. 31 Gehazi went on ahead & laid the staff on the face of the child, but there was no sound or sign of life. Therefore he returned to meet him & told him, "The child has not awakened." 32 When Elisha came into the house, he saw the child lying dead on his bed 33 So he went in & shut the door behind the two of them & prayed to the Lord. 34 Then he went up & lay on the child, putting his mouth on his mouth, his eyes on his eyes, & his hands on his hands. As he stretched himself upon him, the flesh of the child became warm. 35 Then he got up again & walked once back & forth in the house, & went up & stretched himself upon him. The child sneezed seven times, & the child opened his eyes 36 He summoned Gehazi & said, "Call this Shunammite." So he called her. When she came to him, he said, "Pick up your son." 37 She came & fell at his feet, bowing to the ground. Then she picked up her son & went out.

Satan constantly challenges the promises of God w/ doubt. He's always trying to convince us that God's Word doesn't work, that faith in Jesus doesn't work, & His sacrifice on the cross wasn't enough. Satan challenges the faith-filled promises of the Word w/ unbelief-filled lies. We can't receive God's provision, including salvation apart from faith. All that Jesus has provided for us, must be received by faith.

## Faith is God's source of power in us.

By acting in faith on the Word, you can expect the favor, grace, peace, provision, abundance of God in your life.

Hebrews 11:1 *Faith* shows the reality of what we hope for; it is the evidence of things we cannot see. 2 Through their *faith*, the people in days of old earned a good reputation. 3 By *faith* we understand that the entire universe was formed at God's command, that what we now see did not come from anything that can be seen.

#### **3** Basic Characteristics of Faith

- 1. Faith is real, a substance, evidence, & proof (vs. 1)
- 2. Faith is God's creative power (vs. 3)
- **3.** Faith is a spiritual force (vs. 3)

**1 John 5:4** Every child of God defeats this evil world, & we achieve this victory through our *faith*. 5 And who can win this battle against the world? Only those who believe that Jesus is the Son of God.

Our faith is in Jesus. We win. We overcome. We're victorious.