

BASIC FAITH PRINCIPLES

Our Means Of Success

I. Faith is our means of success and victory (1 John 5:4)

- A. Apart from the faith there is no victory and we have no means of success
 - 1. The level of victory that you have in life is determined by the level of faith that you walk in; Little faith = Little victory, A lot of faith = A lot of victory
 - 2. People who don't **know and apply** the principles of faith will be limited in the victories they see manifest in their lives
 - a. Faith that lays dormant won't work (Luke 17:6)
 - b. Put your faith to work in those areas
 - 3. Any failure in life can be traced back to a failure where faith is concerned b/c if faith would have been fully functioning properly victory would have been the result
 - a. A refusal to take the report of God over any other report
- B. Every victory that you have in your life is given as an act of grace that flowed through your faith
 - 1. Inheriting the promise is the outcome of faith and depends entirely on faith in order that it might be given as an act of grace (Romans 4:16 AMP)
 - a. Grace cannot be earned, but it must be received
 - 2. Faith is the channel through which the grace of God can flow into your life (Ephesians 2:8)
 - a. With no faith channel the grace can't flow
 - b. Faith is not working to earn, it's doing what's necessary to receive
 - c. Faith is our access into grace (Romans 5:2)
 - 3. God is able to make all grace abound towards you so that you always have all sufficiency in all things and abound towards every good work (2 Corinthians 9:8)
 - a. This reveals God's ability to do, but not what he is doing in the life of every believer
 - b. His ability to make grace abound towards you is limited or enhanced by your ability to believe
- C. Every born again child of God was given the measure of faith (Romans 12:3)
 - 1. God's no respecter of persons; He didn't give me more faith than you
 - a. Galatians 5:22 – Faith is a fruit of the spirit
 - 2. That measure of faith (the fruit of faith) has the potential to grow as you spend time hearing the Word of God (Romans 10:17)
 - a. No Word = No Faith = No Victory---Little Word = Little Faith = Little Victory; A lot of Word = A lot of Faith = A lot of Victory

- (1) The amount of victory that we see in your life can be traced back to the amount of Word that you spend time with
- b. To think that you have big faith and yet don't spend time in the Word violates spiritual law
 - (1) What's interesting is that in hearing that many believers won't go home and spend anymore time in the Word than they are right now

II. What is faith? What exactly are we supposed to believe?

- A. Faith is perceiving as real fact what is not yet revealed to the senses (Hebrews 11:1 AMP)
 - 1. The world defines faith as some generic belief that people have in their God
 - 2. Fact-Anything done or that comes to pass; facts are stubborn things, reality
 - a. It's not yet revealed to my senses, but I believe it as real fact
 - b. If it doesn't become fully persuaded real fact faith you won't receive
 - 3. Faith is believing something is a real reality when it hasn't yet been revealed to your senses
 - 4. **Faith**-Conviction of the truth or reality of anything
 - a. When a report comes that's not in line with the Word something inside of convicts you that the report is not true
- B. Faith levels
 - 1. Believing in God- **His Reality**---The devils do that (James 2:19)
 - 2. Believing God can-**His Ability**---An unborn again man did that (Rom 4:21)
 - 3. Believing God will-**His Willingness**---Lack revelation of the Father's will -Mt 8:2, Ep 5:17
 - 4. Believing God has done it and he's offering it-**His Grace/Faith**---Agreeing with His Word (Romans 3:3-4)
 - a. This is believing that Jesus has already obtained for you everything that you could ever need and is offering it to you
 - 5. Believing you have received-**Receiving**---Working Principles (Mark 11:23)
- C. Faith to receive
 - 1. Believing in God, believing God can, believing God will, believing God said that, & believing its true does not position u to receive the manifestation of that in your life
 - a. You have to believe that you have received the things you don't have yet in the natural **and that and only that** positions you to receive them (Mark 11:23-24)
 - b. It didn't say believe God can & you'll receive; It didn't say believe God will & you'll receive; It said believe that you have received them & you will have them
 - 2. You don't have it yet, but you to ever have it, you're going to have to believe you have it, when you don't have it
 - a. Faith is perceiving that I have it at it's fact even though it's not yet revealed to my senses

- b. Religion never believes it receives---What **can** wash away our sins?
- 3. Faith says Lord I believe you done it, I believe you're offering it to me, so I take it and it's mine now in Jesus name.

III. Two of the greatest deceptions where faith is concerned in the church today:

- A. People putting off till tomorrow what God wants them to put on today; believing in the going to tense
 - 1. If you believe you have received then why are you talking about what's going to happen
 - a. As long as you believe something is going to happen you haven't believed you've received anything; you believe you're going to receive
 - 2. Proverbs 23:7 – As a man thinks in his heart so is he; It didn't say as a man thinks he's going to be, he will be
 - a. To think your needs are going to be met would be to believe that your needs aren't met and that they're going to be someday
 - b. Stop putting it off until some day
 - 3. What you believe you are, you are, so to be something different you're going to have to believe something different
 - a. Genesis 17:5-God told Abraham I have made you the Father of many nations
 - b. 1 John 4:17-As he IS so ARE we in this world
- B. People asking for things that God's already offering; so instead of believing that they have received it they're asking for it
 - 1. You were saved by grace through faith (Eph 2:8, Rom 10:8-10)
 - a. You can believe God can save, will save, is offering salvation, and die and go to hell; you have to believe you receive salvation
 - b. You didn't ask to get saved; you placed a demand on the salvation that God was offering
 - c. You didn't confess he was going to be your Lord, you confessed He is my Lord
 - 2. This is a **grace-faith system** and everything that you receive from God will be given by grace and received through faith (Rom 4:16, 5:2, Eph 2:8)
 - a. We've had the wrong picture; the picture we've had is that God has it and we don't we got to ask Him for it
 - b. The grace faith exchange
 - 3. The day you got born again there was a deposit made into your account with everything that you would ever need that pertains to life and godliness and God put it there by grace (2 Peter 1:4, Ephesians 1:3, Galatians 3:13)
 - a. When you got born again you became a joint heir with Jesus (Romans 8:17, John 16:13)
 - b. You don't have to ask for your inheritance, you do what's necessary to receive it

4. Ask (Aieto) – To be adamant in requesting and demanding assistance to meet tangible needs, to demand, insist, require, call for
 - a. You place a demand on what God's offering with your faith by believing you have received
 - b. EX-When you go to the bank to get money you take the steps necessary to make the withdrawal. You're placing a demand on what's already yours. You don't ask for your money, it's yours
- C. Once you have believed you received there's no more asking (Philippians 4:6)
 1. If you really have believe that you have received it's seen most in your words and in your attitude
 - a. If you believe you have received you have peace and joy (Romans 15:13)
 2. Now you thank God like it's already done because you believe you have received it
 - a. You keep your faith engaged through thanksgiving
 - b. Psalm 8:2-This is the praise that stills the avenger
 - c. Joshua 6:2,16
 3. Through faith and patience be consistent and receive (Heb 6:12)

IV. The just live by faith (Hebrews 10:38, Rom 1:17, Galatians 3:11, Habakkuk 2:4)

- A. To live by faith means in every situation you agree with what God's Word says
 1. 1 Peter 2:24 – God says you're healed, you say you're sick
 2. 2 Corinthians 8:9 – God says you're are rich, you say you can't afford
 3. Romans 8:37 – God says you are more than a conqueror, you say you feel so defeated
 4. 1 Corinthians 2:16, 1:30, 1 John 2:20 – God says you have the mind of Christ, the wisdom of God, and an unction from the Holy one to know all things, you say you don't know what to do
 5. John 14:27 – God says you have Jesus peace, you say you're stressed
 6. John 16:22 – God says you have joy, you say you're discouraged
 7. 2 Timothy 1:7 – God says he hasn't given you the spirit of fear, you say you're afraid
 8. 2 Corinthians 5:21 – God says you're the righteousness of God, you say you're a sinner
 9. Romans 6:22 – God says you're free from sin, you say you got a sin problem
 10. Philippians 4:13 – God says you are strong, you say you're weak and tired
 11. Ephesians 4:28 – God says you work to give, you say you work to live
 12. Romans 8:1-2 – God says you're not guilty and you'll not be ashamed
 13. Proverbs 18:21 – God says life and death is in the power of the tongue, you say it doesn't really matter
- B. The righteous should live by agreeing with what God said in his Word
 1. One of the biggest failures of the church is the failure to **actually know** what God has said in His word

- 2. You can't have genuine real faith without knowing what God said in His Word
- C. Faith makes the word of God final authority and places itself in agreement with the Word (Romans 3:3-4)
 - 1. I put myself in agreement with what the Word says about me and things and people that say things that are in opposition to the Word of God I let them be a liar
 - 2. Matthew 8:5-10 – I know what his body is saying, but if you speak the Word your word trumps that and now what his body says we don't even believe that or acknowledge that as true anymore because you said something else
- D. There's no grounds for faith without words being spoken
 - 1. Without knowing what God spoke you have no grounds for faith
 - 2. You can only have faith in God according to that which He has spoken
 - a. EX: You can't say you believe God's going to get you another wife to go along with the one you already have because God didn't say He's do that
 - 3. Which words did God speak to give you grounds to believe that
- V. Faith, which is your victory, comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God (Romans 10:17)**
 - A. No Word = No victory
 - B. Proverbs 4:20 – Give your attention to God's words
 - 1. Peter and Children of Israel gave their attention to the wrong words