

THE SPIRIT OF FAITH

According As It Is Written

Foundation Statement: What you'll see in a person with the spirit of faith is that they go to the Word for everything because they look only to God

I. You have somebody here who is in a situation of great pressure, but he's got the word regarding his situation and this is a big time mark of a person who has the spirit of faith; they run to the Word regarding every situation of their lives

- A. You'll find people with the spirit of faith running to the Word saying, "What does the Word say about this," and this is coming from the single eye
1. They are in a pressured situation, surrounded by trouble, chased after, attacked by death and notice his response was to run to the Word and we know that because he says we have the same spirit of faith ACCORDING AS IT IS WRITTEN-2 Corinthians 4:13
 2. Apparently he knew what was written and to know it he must have searched it and studied it at some point and why would you do that? Because you value and honor the Word of God and you must think the Word is important
 3. **The spirit of faith always looks from God's perspective and to do that you have to look from the perspective of God's Word**
- B. People with the spirit of faith find their victory in the Word-2 Corinthians 4:13, Psalm 116
1. *Okay, maybe we are surrounded by trouble and maybe we don't know where to go, what to do and don't have any resources, and maybe there are people chasing after us, and maybe we are knocked down, and maybe death is attacking us everyday, BUT according as it is written and they found their victory in Psalm 116; He found his victory in the Word and he said we got the same spirit of faith and we'll get victory they way the guy in Psalm 116 got victory*
 - a. 3-The sorrows of death surround me and the pressures of hell got hold of me; affliction, adversity, tribulation, and sorrow got hold upon me – Does this sound like 2 Corinthians 4:8-11?
 - b. 8-You have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, and my feet from falling – Is this what they need in 2 Corinthians 4?
 - c. 9-I will walk before the Lord in the land of the living; This is speaking knowing; This is like 2 Corinthians 4:14
 - 1) He's saying we're not going to die and where did he find it? In Psalm 116
 2. Who else talked this "it is written" language? Jesus did because he had the spirit of faith and people with the spirit of faith run to the Word
 - a. When the enemy attacked Jesus ran to the word first, why? Because he's got the spirit of faith

b. **You go to the Word because you're going to war with the Word**

II. **God's Word is the establishing point of my faith in him**

A. The **first move** of a person with the spirit of faith is always a move towards the word

1. Someone not developed in the spirit of faith will have a different first move; their **first move** might be to yield to wrong feelings, their **first move** might be to seek the arm of the flesh (natural solution); their **first move** will not be towards the Word

a. Matthew 4:4-The first move Jesus made when attacked by the devil was a move toward the Word of God

b. EX: Okay _____ happened? What does the Word say?

c. Matthew 8:8-This guy had great faith and his first move was toward the Word (Speak the Word only)

2. **Your first move will expose where your faith is and who your faith is in-Jeremiah 42**

a. Their first move was toward Egypt and it exposes their unbelief-Jeremiah 41:17

B. The Word is the spark that lights the fire of faith

1. Romans 10:13-14-You can't believe if you don't hear; It's the word that sparks faith

a. Saving doesn't come without calling – Calling doesn't come without believing – Believing doesn't come without hearing

b. For my situation if I'm going to believe God and have confidence in him and have faith in him and get the victory, then I got to first know what he's said because if I haven't heard what he said, then I can't believe

1) *EX: If I'm going to call on God to change a law, then I have to believe that he would change the law and to believe he would change the law I'd first have to know what He's said in his Word about changing laws; Once I hear in his word that he has changed laws it will spark faith to believe he'd do it in this situation*

2) *EX: How are you going to call on God where healing is concerned if you don't believe he'd heal you and how would you believe he'd heal you if you haven't heard from Him that he would heal you? But if you heard it would spark faith to call on him and get victory*

3) If God has said it to me, then I have grounds to be confident that He'll do it for me, but if I'm not sure what he said it or if I don't know that the said it, then I have no reason to believe or be confident that He'd do it

c. **That's why a person with the spirit of faith goes to the Word first because it's going to spark faith in him**

2. Mark 5:27-When she heard of Jesus it sparked faith in her for Jesus to heal her

a. 25,26-At this moment is this woman believing that Jesus will heal her? No. Why? Because she hasn't heard yet

- b. 28-In this verse she is speaking knowing and that reveals to us that genuine faith is there – How did faith get there?
- c. 27-Faith got there because when she heard the Word it sparked faith in her
- 3. Psalm 116 sparked faith in them that God would deliver them in 2 Corinthians 4 and became the establishing point of their faith in God
 - a. What's the establishing point of your faith in God?
- C. I need grounds upon which to approach God with confidence and trust him and depend on him and the Word gives me grounds to do that
 - 1. 1 John 5:14,15-My confidence begins with me knowing God's will (Word) and then approaching him on the basis of His will (Word)
 - a. When I go to God I go already knowing what He wants to do and when I go to him my request is in agreement with what He wants to do for me and that gives me confidence that he hears me and if he hears me I know that I have what I desire of Him
 - 2. 2 Corinthians 4:13-According as it is written; He knows they have grounds upon which to stand and expect God to deliver them

III. Matthew 4:4-Because the Word is the establishing point of my faith and faith is my victory that overcomes the world, I live by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God (that's the only way to win)-Romans 10:14,17, 1 John 5:4

- A. The word of God is the establishing point for my faith so to live by faith is to live by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God (Romans 10:14,17, Galatians 3:11, Matthew 4:4)
 - 1. I find out what this Word has to say about everything
 - a. *EX: A good night's rest, My kids aren't behaving, I need new clothes, weeds growing in the lawn, my marriage is in shambles, a law was passed in the land that disagrees with the Word, a politician got elected that is for evil things, okay what does the Word say about this*
 - b. We are to live by this Word and living by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God is how you would enjoy real life, blessed, strong, successful and effective-Joshua 1:8
 - c. **Some Christians try to live by prayer and ignore the Word and ignore faith and that doesn't work; We don't live by prayer, we live by the Word, we live by faith and if our prayers aren't prayers of faith based on the Word they won't produce**
 - 1) If you exalt prayer above the Word and above faith you'll got things out of order and chances are your praying will be off
 - 2. This word is my source for everything
 - a. *Proverbs 4:22-They are **life** (LIVE PROSPEROUSLY) to those who find them and **health** to all their flesh*

- b. *Jeremiah 15:16-Your words were found and I did eat them; thy word was unto me the **joy** and rejoicing of mine heart*
 - c. *Psalm 107:20-He sent his word and **healed** them and **delivered** them from their destructions*
 - d. *Psalm 119:50-Thy word has **quicken**ed me (To revive from sickness, from discouragement, from faintness, from death)*
 - e. *1 Peter 1:23-You were born again by the Word of God*
 - f. *Psalm 119:165-Great **peace** have they which love your law (Completeness, Soundness, Safety, Soundness in body, Health, Prosperity, Peace, Quiet)*
 - g. *John 8:32-The truth will make you **free***
 - h. *Psalm 119:105-Thy word is a **lamp** unto my feet and **light** unto my path*
 - i. *Psalm 91:5-His truth is a **buckler** and a **shield***
 - j. *Joshua 1:8-This word is my **success***
 - k. *Revelation 12:11-We overcome by this Word*
- B. You need to practice running to the Word for everything and allow that word to spark faith/confidence in God and then rely on God and look only to him regarding that situation and that is "the just living by faith" and that is "living by every Word that proceeds out of the mouth of God"
1. **The just are supposed to live by faith and a big part of living by faith is to depend on God for everything**
 2. Most Christians don't live by the Word of God, but rather they look to other things

IV. People who have the spirit of faith place a great value on the Word of God and show the Word great honor

- A. Every believer they would say they value the Word greatly, but most by their actions demonstrate they don't
1. Honor for a thing is not show in how much you say you honor a thing, but rather your honor for a thing is revealed by how you treat it
- B. Ways that people with the spirit of faith honor the Word
1. The first way people with the spirit faith value the Word and show the Word great honor is that they make it the **final authority** in their lives
 - a. That means that in their life The Word has the final say regarding all situations (other things can be saying stuff, but we roll with the Word)
 - b. **That means the Word of God carries more weight and means more to you than any other voice or report**
 - 1) Numbers 13,14-The didn't honor God's Word; The evil report meant more to them and carried more weight in their lives
 - c. **When you have the Spirit of faith the Word of God is King**

- 1) The spirit of faith is built on the foundation that the Word of God is final authority
 - 2) If faith is going to be the predominant influence in your life then the word must be final authority
2. The second way people with the spirit of faith value the Word and show the Word great honor is that they **seek** the Word of God
 - a. That means you go to the Word to find out what the Word has to say about your situation and that shows the Word great honor
 - 1) Some believers don't even value God's Word enough or honor it enough to go to it and seek it regarding their situation
 - 2) Do you even value God's Word enough find out what He has to say about your situation?
 - b. *Psalm 119:45-And I will walk at liberty: for I seek your precepts*
 - c. *Psalm 119:155-Salvation is far from the wicked: for they seek not your precepts*
3. The third way that people with the spirit of faith value the Word and show the Word great honor is they **desire** the Word
 - a. *Psalm 119:131-I opened my mouth and panted (with eager desire): For I longed for your commandments*
 - b. You do not desire what is not valuable to and more valuable something is to you the greater your desire for it will be
4. The fourth way that people with the spirit of faith value the Word and show the Word great honor is they **meditate** the Word
 - a. *Psalm 119:15-I will meditate your precepts and have respect unto your ways*
 - b. *Psalm 119:97-Oh how I love your law, it is my meditation all the day*
 - c. That means that you think about the Word, you ponder it
 - 1) You're going to think about what's important, what's valuable and what carries weight in your life
 - 2) *Psalm 119:113-I hate vain thoughts, but your law do I love*
5. The fifth way that people with the spirit of faith value the Word and show it great honor is that they **talk** about the Word
 - a. *Psalm 119:172-My tongue shall speak of your Word*
 - b. You talk about what's important to you and what you value
6. The sixth way that people with the spirit of faith value the Word and show it great honor is how they **respond** to the Word
 - a. *Psalm 119:171-My lips will utter praise when you have taught me your statutes*
 - b. *Psalm 119:162-I rejoice at your Word as one who finds great spoil*
 - c. *Psalm 119:103-How sweet are your words unto my taste! Yea sweeter than honey to my mouth*

- d. *Psalm 119:129-Your testimonies are wonderful (marvelous)*
 - e. *Psalm 119:111-Your testimonies have I take as an heritage forever: for they are the rejoicing of my heart*
7. The seventh way that people with the spirit of faith value the Word and show it great honor is in their **attitude** towards the Word
- a. *Psalm 119:174-Your law is my DELIGHT*
 - b. *Psalm 119:117-I will have RESPECT unto your statutes continually*
 - c. *Psalm 119:167-My soul has kept your testimonies; and I LOVE them exceedingly*
8. The eighth way that people with the spirit of faith value the Word and show it great honor is in they **value** the Word above all else
- a. *Psalm 119:14-I rejoiced in the Word as in all riches*
 - b. *Psalm 119:72-The law of your mouth is better unto me than thousands of gold and silver*
 - c. *Psalm 119:127-I love your commandments above God, yea above fine gold*
 - d. *Psalm 119:148-My eyes anticipate the night watches and I am awake before the cry of the watchman, that I may meditate on your Word*
 - e. *Psalm 119:69-I will keep your precepts with my whole heart*
9. The ninth way that people with the spirit of faith value the Word and show it great honor is they **pay attention** to the Word
- a. *Psalm 119:16-I will forget not your Word (I won't ignore it)*
 - b. *Psalm 119:30-Your judgments have I laid before me*
10. The tenth way that people with the spirit of faith value the Word and show it great honor is they **do** what it says
- C. The value and honor you give to the Word will be a key determining factor in whether or not you experience victory and success-Proverbs13:13
- 1. *Psalm 119:92-If he wouldn't have valued the Word and honored it he would have been defeated*