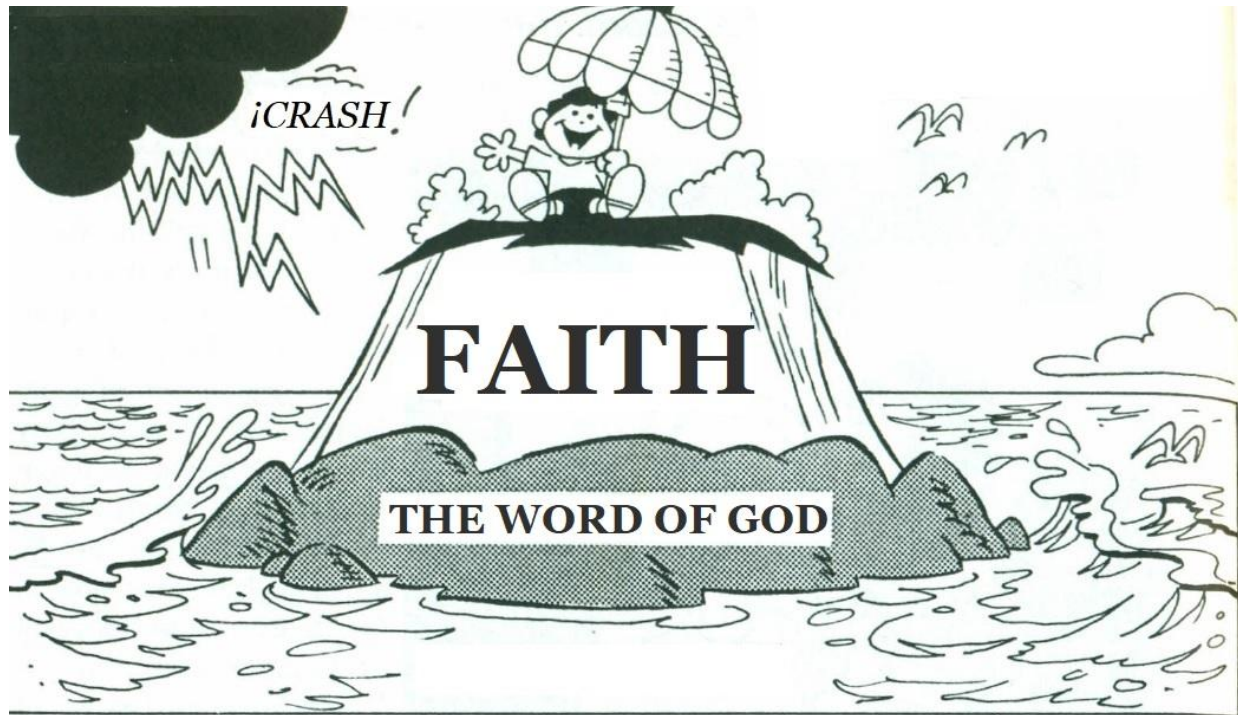


THE
WEAPON
OF
FAITH
BOOKLET

THE WEAPON OF FAITH

Compilation of Writings of TCOB on the Subject



When Battling System Input

1. **(María:)** The more input you get from the Enemy, the more input you need from the Lord.

3. When you're facing the accusations of the Enemy, you've just got to rely on the Lord for your strength. Without Him you can do nothing & you're really weak. (Jn.15:5.) Without continuous strength from the Lord, you don't have any power or spiritual energy. You're empty & don't have anything to battle with. When you have to hear & be immersed in all kinds of vicious lies from the Devil, then you can't help but be affected by it, it influences you.

4... Like Dad has always said, words are real things, words are powerful, regardless of whether they're the Enemy's words or the Lord's

Words, they have power. *It's not just the Lord's Words that have power, the Enemy's words have power too*, & they influence people & sway people. So you shouldn't feel condemned if hearing the Enemy's lies & negative input makes you feel discouraged or depressed, or maybe even temporarily doubting or questioning.

5. You don't have to let the Devil just walk all over you without your putting up a fight! The only solution is to make sure you get some positive input of the Lord's Words! The only counter-action, the only antidote for that is God's Word & His promises. But if you don't get that, then you're going to be weakened.

6. The Lord's not kidding when He keeps telling us over & over that His Words are Spirit & they are Life, that they're quick (alive) & powerful & sharper than any two-edged sword, that they're the discerners of the thoughts & intents of the heart, & a lamp unto our feet & a light unto our path, that their entrance is what gives us understanding, as well as all the other things the Lord says about His Word! He's not just saying those things to supply you with beautiful literature, nor to give you some theoretical principles that sound nice. He means for you to do something about it. He wants you to apply it & make it work for you. He wants you to get it into your heart & every fiber of your being & let it empower you to rise above the negative words of the Devil that would drag you down.

7. With His Word as your weapon, you have to actively resist & fight & overcome all of that negative input that you are subjected to. The only way to win is to have sufficient input from the Lord! That's just one of God's principles, that's the way the Lord has set things up, that's the way it works. There's nothing we can do to change it, the Lord has set it up so that the negative input can only be countered by positive input from His Word. So no matter how strong we may think we are, if we get a lot of negative input, but don't get the Lord's antidote for it, then we're going to be weakened. That's just the way it is, that's the way the process works.

8. So it's really dangerous to think, "Well, I'm so strong, I can take it." You cannot take it unless you have the strength of the Lord's Word. David said, "***By the Word of Thy lips I have kept me from the paths of the Destroyer.***"--Psa.17:4. It's only the Lord's Word that will keep you from getting sidetracked onto the Enemy's slippery paths. It's the Word that gives you strength to overcome the Devil; "***I have written unto***

you, young men, because ye are strong, and the Word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the Wicked One."--

1Jn.2:14.

Giving No Place to the Devil!

9. The World criticises us, "You just won't listen, you're not willing to hear our side of the story, how we see things!" Well, when we know we already have the Truth of the Lord's Word, why should we listen to the lies if we don't have to--just out of curiosity or just to show how strong we are? The Lord tells us to "***Neither give place to the Devil! And whatsoever things are true, honest, just, pure, lovely, of good report, if there be any virtue, if there be any praise, think on these things!***"--Eph.4:27; Phil.4:8. That's a command that the Lord gave us because He knew spiritual warfare is serious. He knew if you started listening to the Enemy & thinking on his things, you'd be polluted & corrupted by it. This is a principle that Dad covered very thoroughly in his "You Are What You Read"

10. The World tells us, "You're just stuck on one idea & one frame of mind, & you don't give your kids a chance to be exposed to all the other ideas in the World. You won't even listen.--You're too narrow-minded!" Well, *if those ideas are contrary to God's Word, then we're commanded not to expose our children to them & not to give place to them!* (Dad: AMEN!)

God's Good Word vs. the Devil's Dirty Garbage!

11. When you are getting besieged by the word of the Enemy, the more you hear his lies, the more faith you have in them, & then the more doubt you have in God's Truth. On the other hand, the more of the Lord's Truth you get, the more faith you have, because "*faith cometh by hearing the Word.*"--Rom.10:17.

12. So the only thing that is going to help you to stand strong & give you the faith you need is hearing & dwelling on the Lord's Word. That's the only thing that is going to overcome the doubts that result from hearing the Devil's words. God's Word is the only thing that is going to counteract it.

13. In other words, you definitely need to hear more of the Lord's Word than the Devil's words. So if you've got to hear all of our

enemies' lies--like those who are involved in our legal & media battles--then you've got to make sure you're getting into the Lord's Word & getting immersed in it to keep you from weakening & doubting. Jesus said, "**Now ye are clean through the Word which I have spoken unto you!**"-- Jn.15:3. Hearing the Enemy's lies besmirches you & causes doubt & fear, just the opposite of the cleansing, faith-building, reassuring Word of God.

14. ... It's just a spiritual law that if you're hearing the Enemy's word, you're going to start getting faith in it, which means you're going to be doubting God's Word. But it's also a law that you can counter any weakening of your faith by getting the Lord's Word.--And as you get into God's Word, you get faith in that.

15. Whatever your input is, your faith will grow in it. The Devil's word brings faith, too, but faith in the Devil! But the Lord's Word, if you get more immersed in it, will give you faith to counter & fight the Devil's word.

17. That's why the Lord commands us all, no matter how strong we may think we are, to think on the things that are good, the things that are of good report. You're not proving anything or doing anything great by trying to show how much of the Devil's input you can take & how strong you can still stand. If anything, you're tempting the Lord! **It's His commandment to us all, no matter how strong we are, no matter how strong we think we are, to choose the good & eschew the evil, to give no place to the Devil.**--To think on the good things, & the things that are of good report, & not on the negative & not on the evil & not on the Devil's words.

18. Don't think, "I'm so strong spiritually that I can take all this stuff," because you can't take it!--It's only the Lord Who can take it for you! It's only the Lord & His Word that will give you the strength to overcome the doubts that you're going to be fed through hearing the Devil's garbage. So "***take the Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God***" (Eph.6:17), & use it to defeat & cast down all of the doubtful darts of the Devil & all of the evil imaginations that exalt themselves against the knowledge of God! Amen? GBY! ILY! (Amen! TTL!--Dad.)

P.S. Of course, you should avoid listening to the Devil's lies & accusations as much as possible. "***Neither give place to the Devil!***"-- Eph.4:27. But if you have to be exposed to his garbage, **make sure you get a good cleansing from the pure water of the Word, amen?** GBY!

(ML#2821 -Faith Cometh By Hearing the Word!)

On the Use of Each Weapon

229. (Jesus speaking:) All the weapons and keys are at your disposal, and each one will help you along your way. Sometimes the key that you must use to open one door is praise. Sometimes you must use prophecy to help you through the next one, because the key to it is hidden. At other times I will show you that you must use **the weapon of faith** to fight this attack. Each one will help you. Each one you must use at different times. I will help you and show you what to use at each hurdle so that you can use it to propel you over it and on to greater victories.

230. You can rise above this seeming impossibility. I know that you feel that this is impossible, but it isn't with Me! With Me, all things are possible. You just need to keep yourself stirred up in mind, heart, body, and spirit. Remember that you must stay surrendered, yielded, and desperate for Me at all times. You could lose the victory if you don't stay desperate. You could lose your vision if you don't keep stirring yourself up. I will always put little stops along the way for you. I'll send you checks. I'll help others to be able to warn you, correct you, and keep you. I won't let you fall if you keep praying for the victory.

231. Just keep claiming My promises and don't let go. Hold on to My Word, because it's as a lifesaver that has been thrown out to you. And even though the undercurrents feel like they're pulling you under and you're gasping for air, know that I will keep you if you keep holding on to the Word. It's what will save you. The Word, the Word, the Word! It's the weapon that can fight all attacks.

232. The Word takes on many forms. It's both comforting and encouraging, helpful and uplifting, and I'm giving it to you. I'm giving you the key to unlock every door, to overcome every obstacle, to leap every hurdle, to rise above every impossibility, to heal every wound that you get, to comfort your heart, to give you courage to carry on. All of this is in My Word, and I want you to never let it go.

233. Never let a day pass without immersing yourself in My Words. Get up early and read, pray, and soak up My Word. You need that power behind you to meet the first challenge of the day--breakfast--and

then you need it to keep the victory.

234. Quote the Word, memorize the Word, live the Word, read the Word, listen to the Word, speak about the Word, because the Word is the only thing that will keep you--both My written Word and My Word that I will speak to you daily. If you hold on to Me and to My Word, you will rise above, you will conquer, you will win against the foe!

235. So don't doubt; trust and build your faith block by block by reading My Word! It's there for you. It's free, it's at your disposal, and it's the key to victory and to rising above. So use it, read it, and wield it against the Enemy, and he won't be able to touch a hair of your head. You are protected; your shields are running at 100 percent. Keep them that way by refueling with the Word! You can do it! *(End of message from Jesus.)*

(ML 3391 - Fight for Life Part 2)

When Fighting for Life and Freedom

125. (Dad:) Say, "Yes! Lord, help me to make it! Lord, help me to change! Lord, take me and remake me!" And He will! He wants to bless you with freedom! It's His will. So do everything you can! Yield to anything that is asked of you, and do it!

126. This is a long-term battle that you're fighting, and ... the lasting victory will be to keep staying close to your shepherds and to the Lord in all that you do.

127. Because the Lord's gifted you with being able to see more in the spirit, it also makes you more susceptible to the wrong spiritual signals if you're not truly keeping your mind stayed on Him.

133. (Jesus:) You deserve to live because I say so, because it's My will for you to live. I want you on this Earth and I put you here for a purpose. I have jobs yet for you to do, people for you to meet, and love to show to others.

134. There is help to be had and there is freedom to feel on Earth, while still living! I want you to experience so much more in this life.

135. Now is your time to shine. I know you don't feel like you're shining; you almost feel like a black light. Well, maybe that's how it looks to you, but to others and to Me, you're shining. So just keep shining with My love.

136. Even if you feel like you can't do anything else right, you can smile right, you can hug right, you can make others happy right! Those are plenty of reasons to live right there, but there are many more.

137. You deserve to live because I want you there to be a vessel that I can use. Right now, I'm just making you more useful - not showing you that you have no use. So don't buckle under the pressure and don't let the strain of it all get to you. Just rise above on the wings of prayer and praise and let Me help you soar over the mountains and on to the new horizon of a new life, a new heart, and a new mind.

138. You deserve to live because I choose for you to live. I ordain you and I order you to respect this life that I've given you and all its many blessings. Don't throw it away through carelessness or foolishness, but treat your life and your body as a gift from Me that you should care for properly, so that when I return you will not be found wanting. I love you.

139. All the weapons and keys are at your disposal, and each one will help you along your way. Sometimes the key that you must use to open one door is praise. Sometimes you must use prophecy to help you through the next one, because the key to it is hidden. At other times I will show you that you must use *the weapon of faith* to fight this attack. Each one will help you. Each one you must use at different times. I will help you and show you what to use at each hurdle so that you can use it to propel you over it and on to greater victories.

140. You can rise above this seeming impossibility! I know you feel that this is impossible, but it isn't with Me! With Me, all things are possible.

141. You need to keep yourself stirred up in mind, heart, body, and spirit. You must stay surrendered, yielded, and desperate for Me at all times. You could lose the victory if you don't stay desperate. You could lose your vision if you don't keep stirring yourself up.

142. I won't let you fall if you keep praying for the victory.

143. Keep claiming My promises and don't let go. Hold on to My Word, because it's as a lifesaver that has been thrown out to you. And even though the undercurrents feel like they're pulling you under and you're gasping for air, know that I will keep you if you keep holding on to the Word. It's what will save you.

144. The Word, the Word, the Word! It's the weapon that can fight all attacks. The Word takes on many forms. It's comforting and encouraging, helpful and uplifting, and I'm giving it to you. I'm giving you the key to unlock every door, to overcome every obstacle, to leap every hurdle, to rise above every impossibility, to heal every wound that you get, to comfort your heart, to give you courage to carry on. All of this is in My Word, and I want

you to never let it go. Never let a day pass without immersing yourself in My Words.

145. Quote the Word, memorize the Word, live the Word, read the Word, listen to the Word, speak about the Word, because the Word is the only thing that will keep you - both My written Word and My Word that I will speak to you daily. If you hold on to Me and to My Word, you will rise above, you will conquer, you will win against the foe! So don't doubt; trust and build your faith block by block by reading My Word! It's there for you. It's free, it's at your disposal, and it's the key to victory and to rising above. So use it, read it, and wield it against the Enemy, and he won't be able to touch a hair of your head. You are protected; your shields are running at 100 percent. Keep them that way by refueling with the Word! You can do it!

146. The victory is being happy with how I made you, so that no matter how you look, you'll always have that peace, that feeling that you are beautiful because I made you, and everything that I make is beautiful.

147. The victory is being able to enjoy life with your friends. The victory is being able to be a fit person without taking it too far. The victory is being able to go out on a hike and enjoy the scenery, the conversation and the fun, without feeling so exhausted. The victory is feeling well ... The victory is sleep.

148. The victory is being able to feel at peace and being able to accept My love and others' love for you. The victory is being able to testify of the miracle that I have wrought in your life, helping others by being a walking miracle. The victory is not living in fear. The victory is being able to receive My love and not feeling that there is one part of your heart that is not Mine. The victory is not hearing those horrible voices anymore!

149. The victory is being able to live, to love, to enjoy life, to feel whole, like a real human. The victory is not having such a chip on your shoulder; not having so many areas where people just can't go. The victory is being able to go anywhere and do anything with anyone without having such gripping fear that maybe they'll make you eat, or maybe they'll think you're fat, or that you shouldn't be eating this or that.

150. The victory is a whole new life! You will be born again; you're becoming a new creature. Doesn't it feel good? Don't you enjoy things so much more?

151. You're getting there. The victory is coming and you're going to make it because you have My strength and power here to hold on to you. I love you and I'm helping you to make it.

152. You shouldn't worry about it; you shouldn't even let yourself think that the victory will be undesirable. By the time you reach it you'll be sooooo happy; you'll feel liberated and you won't even want to go back.

153. I know you fear that once you reach the goal that has been laid down for you, the pull to cut back, the –wrong- pull ... will be more than you can bear, but that's not the case. The pull will be gone. The reason you felt the pull before is that you hadn't fully received the victory from Me.

154. The Enemy is filling your heart with lies and fears to make you not want the victory, or to make you think that you won't like it once you get it. He's trying to keep you from taking that victory banner with both hands because he doesn't want you to have it...Once you reach that goal, the pain will be gone. Right now you're still so in his clutches that you can't picture this victory; you can't fathom that you'd ever want it. But day by day, minute by minute, hour by hour your heart is changing. You're realizing more and more that the victory is a desirable thing, that it brings so much happiness with it. And by the time you reach it, it will be glorious.

155. Just like I don't expect you to have faith to change completely tomorrow, I also don't expect you to feel like you fully want that victory right now, but each day you will want it more and more. Each day it won't seem as daunting. Each day your joy of salvation will become clearer and clearer. Right now it's clouded over with fear, but when you're able to break through each bramble, cut each cord, and the light starts to shine over your darkened way, you'll see the beauty that surrounds you.

156. The victory is something that you'll be so happy for! Each day you'll want it more and more. You want it now and you'll want it more.

157. The victory will be a happy moment for you. It's not like I'd punish you for all your fighting by making the final outcome something that is so hard for you that you wish you'd never tried. I'm a loving and merciful God, and I know what your heart desires and I will give that to you. You are pleasing Me with all that you're doing for Me, with all that you're surrendering. I know that you want the victory and I will give it to you, and you'll be so happy when that day comes. The trials will be gone, the battles will no longer be there, and you'll be free!

158. As you know, when you're in the midst of a battle, nothing looks positive. All you can see is the dark, foreboding clouds looming above your head. This is how you're seeing the situation at the moment; but these clouds will pass and the sun will come out again, along with a rainbow, which will bring about glorious victories for you!

159. I have overcome the world and I will help you in overcoming this battle.

160. I will help you to defeat these demons, and together we will get the victory! Nothing is too hard for Me, nothing at all!

161. You're being victorious! You're gaining monumental victories! Hold on to your crown and don't let the Enemy steal it from you. Don't give him one inch, or he will take a mile. He is conniving and devious and will stop at nothing to try to get you to give up your victory, but don't you listen to him. Instead, listen to Me and those around you. Fight! Don't give up!

162. I'm preparing you for the future, when you'll be a help to many others who are going through these same battles. You can now be a comfort, a listening ear, and an encouragement of "if I can make it, you can too." I'm preparing you for something that will benefit not only you, but a lot of others. So don't give up the fight, but continue to fight and defeat the Devil. He hates the fact that you're gaining victories, and he will stop at nothing to try to get you to put down your victory and say it's too hard.

163. I love you, Honey, and you're doing great! I'll help you through this battle just as I've helped you through the other ones. Soon this will pass and you'll see that it served a purpose - to help you be a stronger fighter and to teach you endurance during the battle, as well as to help you overcome your fears and pride. It will be worth it all; trust Me. Have I ever failed you? I won't fail you now. I love you, My little one. You're doing great, so keep it up! Don't look down but look up!

164. There is no rose without a thorn, and truly the rose of surrender and yieldedness will be born out of these and many other thorns.

165. If you've learned anything in your life and service for Me it is that I do all things well, and that all things work together for good to them that love Me and are called according to My purpose.

166. Do not fret or question My ways, for they are beyond yours.

167. Don't allow the Enemy's seeds of bitterness, resentment, criticalness, and hate to be planted. Rather yield to Me and let Me break your heart. Out of the ashes of this seeming defeat can grow the beautiful lilies of victory.

168. You may wonder why I again choose to put you to the test and remake you, but do not fret so. Know that I am the Master Builder and I will not smash you without remaking you again in a better, happier, and stronger way. I am wise and I do all things well.

169. I now hold supreme sway in your life, and I am at work even now planting the seeds of the lilies of victory in the burned-out ashes of the Enemy's former strongholds.

170. Even as you accept and pray that you can have the strength, I take you at your word and count it as done.

171. The Enemy may storm and bluster outside of your walls, outside of your heart, but he will not be able to touch the real you, the inside, unless you again give him entrance. But I know you don't wish to do this, because your heart is filled up with Me now. It is all Mine and I am reveling in it.

172. Join Me now in sealing up any last cracks or breaches in your spiritual defense. Put away from you all comparing and jealousy, the need to be better than another. Put away those negative impulses of the Devil and learn to rejoice in all My works.

173. From here on out, I promise that things will become easier. I will give you grace for the battles as you step up boldly to face them. Thank you for coming this far; I never had a doubt that you would make it. The Enemy came close, but I knew you would stand fast, and you didn't disappoint Me. I'm so proud of you!

174. The Lord has to clear out all the old in order to form the new vessel out of the clay of His choosing.

175. The Lord treats us very individually and measures out what we need in exact proportion to what He knows we can take, and He does that for every individual. He doesn't mete out things generically, but He's in the business of making tailor-made, special-order lessons, battles, and victories for us.

176. I have heard your plight, My little bird, and I know of your desire to fly once again. I have sent My angels to care for you during this time. You have come to rest in the security of Me now, to find shelter within My branches. I will lovingly care for you.

177. My angels are there to watch over you; they surround you continually, caring for you and bringing you back to full strength.

178. You have found refuge in Me now, My love. You no longer have to face the adverse winds on your own; I will protect you from them. Rest here in Me now.

179. In time your broken wing will mend and the freedom of the skies will be yours to claim. You will once again sing freedom's song, as you learn to use your wings again and soar the open skies.

180. You will fly once more, My love; I promise you this.

181. Just look at every difficult time, every trial, every test as an opportunity to rise above! Remember that I'm allowing you to have lots of them so that you become an expert in using the keys of the Kingdom and overcoming the obstacles.

182. I will do the miracle! There's nothing in all of Heaven or Hell or Earth that can stop My wonderful, miraculous, overcoming power! Your will is on My side, so we have nothing to lose and everything to gain! - Nothing to lose, that is, except the sadness and frustration! Eventually the battle will

be completely covered by the victory. You won't even remember it anymore. I'll wipe it all away. So hang on, because each day that you fight and hang on brings you closer to that wonderful, glorious, promised victory!

183. I don't mean to glorify war, but I want you to stop and think for a moment about many of the wars throughout history that have been fought for the freedom of a country. They had to endure a time of great difficulty and intense battle, even many casualties, so that for years to come they might enjoy peace and safety and freedom throughout the land. That's what you're going through right now - a war for your freedom and safety and happiness. The Enemy will try to make it seem endless and that it's not worth fighting, but if you can just endure this time of intense battle, you will then be able to enjoy freedom, safety, and peace for years to come. It's a war for freedom, My love, and it's worth fighting!

184. I make all things new - even you, My love! You're becoming new. You're undergoing your metamorphosis, and it's beautiful to see! You're like the butterfly emerging from the cocoon. It's a tight squeeze, it's difficult, it's even painful, but the struggle is what will make you beautiful and enable you to fly!

185. Each little tiny right decision is progress toward the victory! Each time you fight to do the right thing, you're one step closer to the victory - not just a victory where you have to fight every minute to maintain, but a victory where you actually feel it, you're happy, and the battle is behind you. That day is coming, My love, and each step you take in obedience to Me brings you closer to it. So keep hanging on and fighting!

186. Don't be discouraged when you get hit. Separate the sickness from yourself in your mind. I know you feel that it's a part of you, but I don't see it that way. I see it as an ugly intruder, and I long to protect you, My darling lovely one, and keep it far from you. So whenever you think those thoughts or hear those voices, remember that that's not part of you. That's an evil, ugly intruder trying to steal your happiness. Don't let him! Cry out to Me and let Me protect you and defend you against him. It's not you, My love - it's him that I'm fighting and will lift up My sword against. So do your best to help Me keep him out, and when you're tired and just can't fight anymore, call Me to get rid of him, and I will. I'll protect you, My gentle little one.

187. This is the day that I take you by your hand and lead you to follow Me. This is the day that I put My arms under your spirit and carry you across the sands. This is the day that marks the beginning of the victory: The day of yielding.

188. As your spirit goes, so goes the battle. As your choices go, so goes the battle. As your yieldedness goes, so goes the battle. There is no power in Heaven or on Earth greater than My power, and access to My power depends upon your yieldedness.

189. Just as your spirit has yielded to Me and I have caused an influx of Spirit-Life into your spiritual heart, so your body now will begin to feel the effects and begin to change, to come out of the bondage of the past into the freedom of your future.

190. As long as you don't give ground now, you will win, no doubt about it! For this is the victory, even your faith and your stance on the new. Hold your ground. Never give up the ship, and the victory will be laid at your feet in glorious manifestations, proving that, yes, there is a God in Heaven and, yes, He does still do miracles today. This is My promise to you, and the future is as bright as all of My love for you, My dear one.

191. My sweet and precious bride, you're doing so well. Even though you're getting hit and sometimes feel like there's no hope, you're still fighting, and that's what's important.

192. You've made the biggest step necessary in this battle, and that was to yield. Now you have strong warriors fighting alongside of you that you didn't have access to before you yielded your will to Me. I was waiting for you to yield. I had a battalion of My finest angels and spirit helpers trained especially for this task, all ready and armed to give you all the help you needed. They were waiting for that moment of total yieldedness to be released into the battle.

193. If you could see the power and might of the spirit helpers and angels you have by your side, it would amaze you! It's an awesome sight! The imps that try to come in with doubt and discouragement are so small in comparison, it's almost funny. They're so freaked out to even come, but they're ordered to by the Devil so they have to try. They come and try to whisper doubts in your ear, but each time you resist them, they get walloped. And now that it's happening to them more and more, they're starting to get reluctant about approaching you. They will continue for a time, but as you keep resisting them, they'll start to come less and less, as they'll know what's coming to them!

194. You're doing the impossible! Yes, believe Me, what you're overcoming and fighting is an impossible battle. In the flesh there is no way you could overcome if it wasn't for your yieldedness to Me which allowed Me to send out this troop of angels and helpers, and if it wasn't for your mates praying and holding you up every day.

195. You will overcome this “impossible” battle. You will defeat the Enemy and win! You will look back on this time as a turning point in your life like no other. You will win this victory and many others, because with Me by your side there's no stopping us, no matter what the obstacle.

196. My precious one, My darling bride, how I love you. I'm so proud of you for fighting this battle. Even though you might not feel like you're doing very well, I want you to know that I think you're doing great!

197. My love, let Me reassure you that you're not only doing well, but with every day that passes you're getting stronger.

198. You might wonder, “Can I really expect to get to the point where I won't battle ... with negative thoughts about myself, with all these terrible emotions I'm feeling?” The answer is yes, that you will get to the point that you won't be battling these same battles you are today to the same degree of intensity.

199. Things will get better, My love. These battles will ease. The intensity of the attacks of the Enemy will change. The battles will lessen and be easier for you to fight because you'll become stronger. It feels like a total uphill climb right now because you're not used to fighting these attacks of the Enemy, and because he's really fighting you with all he's got to try to discourage you in the beginning. But I promise you that as you keep fighting and keep following My counsel to you, things will change.

200. I guarantee that things will change for the better. Your life will change, your emotions will change, your mindset will change, and you will get the victory not only over anorexia, but in many other areas of your life as a result. There's a lot of victory in store for you, My love; that's why the Enemy is fighting you with all he's got.

201. Don't be surprised if you find yourself fighting battles that you didn't even expect to come up, things you weren't expecting to have to fight at all. The Enemy will try to use whatever he can to discourage you - whether it's eating, exercise, emotional ups and downs, or negative thoughts. But whatever he tries to use against you, hang on to the fact that you're going to fight each battle one at a time and not give up. Hang on to My promises that it will be worth it, that you will win as you keep fighting, and that the results are going to be better than you ever dreamed of!

202. Don't worry about tomorrow and whether or not you're going to have what it takes to make it, because I can promise you My strength and power for each battle. You don't have to be strong in yourself, just lean on Me and call on Me for My help, and I'll be there for you no matter how hard the Enemy attacks.

203. My sweet love, I'm so proud of you for being willing to go through this time of fighting. You have no idea how well you're doing right now, because all you can feel is the heat of the battle, and that makes you feel like you're not doing well. But I can tell you that you're doing great in the spirit because you're not giving up! You're following through with the counsel I'm giving you, you're seeking help from your shepherds, you're doing your part.

204. The Enemy is trying to belittle all the good you're doing and the progress you're making. He's trying to scare you and cause you to give up the fight, to make you fear tomorrow and what might happen. Just continue to take it one day at a time, one step at a time, and trust Me for tomorrow. I'll give you the grace for each step of the way, and I promise that it won't be one step too long or hard for you. I won't give you anything that you can't bear with My help. This battle will not be one iota more than you can take.

205. I'll be very gentle and loving with you, My precious one, for you're very dear to My heart. I love you so much and there's nothing that I wouldn't do to keep you close to My side. So don't worry about the future, about tomorrow's battles. The minute you're tempted to worry about that, just think about Me being right there ready to help you. I know what you're going to face tomorrow and I've already prepared the way for you.

206. Right now you're going through training and you're learning to carry the weapons of battle. They're heavy for you because you're not used to carrying them, but as you continue to fight with the weapons of the spirit and get stronger and stronger, soon you won't even notice the weight and you'll be able to fight with power, strength, and accuracy.

207. You've already killed a few dragons, My love, so don't be weary in well doing. Don't be afraid to face a couple more dragons that try to attack. I'll help you to slay them all with the power and might of My Spirit, but you have to keep holding on to your weapons of battle and keep fighting. You can't let down your guard or give up. I'm making you into a warrior fighter of the End, and you're doing well in your training. So keep going and keep fighting so you can receive the crown of victory that I have for you.

208. *Faith is the victory! - Faith in Me, faith in My Word, faith in My promises in spite of how you feel, in spite of the circumstances.* The Evil One seeks to spread fear and worry, but I am greater than him. Have faith in Me and believe, for I will see you through.

209. What does it mean to look to Me? It means to turn your face upward, to look into My eyes in the spirit by asking Me how I see things, by trusting Me that I love you and will do that which is best for you, by giving Me your will and yielding to whatever I've brought into your life, and looking for the

good in it. When you do that, through our time gazing in each other's eyes in the spirit, I am able to give you not only faith and healing and comfort, but also the deeper things of the spirit that I have in store for you. You gain so much through these types of experiences.

216. Although the Enemy fights you and attacks, he cannot prevail! As long as you hold on and continue to call on My power and My strength and let Me fight for you, you will have the victory. As long as you let Me live through you and turn to Me for the help that you need, you will always have My help - not only today in this battle with these afflictions, but every day and for every battle.

217. Through the squeezing and crushing of your life, the beauties of your spirit, the love within your heart, and the treasures of your soul pour forth.

218. How beautiful and marvelous in My sight is this death to everything that you are, and this birth of everything that I am in you!

219. Though it hurts My heart to see you suffer so, I know that the blessings you're receiving from Me during this time of affliction are well worth the price you pay.

220. I am near you - nearer than I've ever been before. In the times when no one else is around, it's just you and Me. I'm so close to you. I cry when you cry. I feel pain when you feel pain. But when you are weak, I remain strong. I am the strength in your weakness, the strength in your affliction. I hold you in My arms and I don't allow one bit more than I know you and I can handle and endure together.

(ML 3392: Fight for Life Part 3)

When Praying and Praising

There is praise that is used as *a weapon of faith*, that of claiming My promises before you have seen them fulfilled. That aspect is very different from the "gratitude-based" uses of the weapon. Praises of faith are almost always used in connection with intercessory prayer, and are one of the most powerful uses of the weapon of praise. Those praises acknowledge My ability to do anything and everything that you request, and do it in the best way possible, and you pump up your faith and stand on it through your praises.

152. The old quote says, "Faith knows that God will do it, and He does!" and now your arsenal has been expanded to include the ability to praise Me for performing your request before you have even seen it in the physical. This is one of the highest levels of appropriating faith. You're taking the action of thanking Me for answering your prayer even before I have done so, which shows that you have the kind of faith that will get the needed results.

153. Praising Me for answers before you see them also helps your prayers to be more focused, direct, and specific, because praising Me for the answer forces you to visualize the answer coming to pass, which helps you to target your prayers and even to target your faith and what you expect of Me. There's a big difference between just praying that someone will be healed, and thanking Me that that person is healed and able to walk normally again, or eat normally again, or resume their normal duties with full strength, or whatever it is they need. Seeing them in your mind's eye being able to do those things again, and seeing them being able to utilize the results of your prayer gives you the right kind of force in prayer that moves My power on your behalf, and brings the direct specific answers you need.

154. Don't forget too that you should not only praise Me for the ways you would like to see Me fulfill the answer to your request, but that you should also praise Me that no matter what happens, I'm taking care of the situation in the best way possible, and I'm in control. Praise Me for the good fruit of the trial or affliction. Praise Me for the opportunities to witness that some difficulties bring you. Praise Me for the strengthening of your spirits. Praise Me for always

answering. As you start praising Me for the good that I can and will bring out of any situation according to your faith, you will begin to see My hand at work. You will begin to understand and know what to claim in prayer. You'll have a sense in your heart of what things I might want to see accomplished, and you'll gain the faith to ask Me for the full answer, the full blessing, the very best that I want to give you.

155. You need to see praise prayers as not only a gesture of goodwill and thanks to Me, but as an essential part of your being able to pray the right kind of prayers and have the right kind of faith. The more you incorporate praises into your prayers, the more specific answers you'll see. Praise makes Me happy and it moves My hand, but part of the reason is that praise also motivates you, encourages you, and causes you to stretch your faith beyond the supplication and toward the fulfillment, which is a very important aspect of receiving My answers.

(ML 3533 – The Art of War part 2)

137. A large part of being an effective prayer warrior-one who **excels** in using the weapon of prayer-is **believing** in the power of prayer, knowing that you are going to effect **great** change through being faithful to use and wield **this weapon in faith**. Ask Me if there's anything-any obstacle at all-in your life or heart that is standing in the way of that belief, or in the way of you actively picking up this weapon of prayer and wielding it consistently and faithfully.

(ML 3565 – The Art of War Part 4)

42. * A good way to use praise in your outreach ministry is to use it as **a weapon of faith**--claiming His promises before you have seen them fulfilled. The quote says, "Faith knows God will do it, and He does!" This is one of the highest levels of appropriating faith. You're taking the action of thanking the Lord for answering your prayer even before He has done so, which shows that you have the kind of faith that will get the needed results. So use praise times throughout the day with your partner, but also use "praise prayers" often in your ministry, as they are powerful.

(ML 3712 – The X Factor: Praise)

The X Factor! : Faith

By Maria ML 3711 8/08

**Using the Spiritual Weapon of Faith Professionally in Our
Witnessing and Winning!**



"The weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds" (2 Corinthians 10:4).

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What?

1. The starting point, before you pick up any other weapon, is faith. The Lord said, "The Word, My promises, will give you faith, and that's the starting point when fighting and defeating the Enemy." Faith is the password, the foundation of power, anointing, and victory. "This is the victory that overcomes the world, even your faith" (1John 5:4). "Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen" (Heb.11:1). It's the "title deed," as explained by Dad (ML #T). It comes from the Word, and it grows; but it can shrink if you neglect your spiritual life. The Lord said faith is our "biggest and baddest" weapon!

Why?

2. When it comes to winning the world, faith is really the starting point. We have to have faith in order for everything else that the Lord has promised to come to pass. We need faith to obey His Word, faith to step out and try new and different things, faith that the Lord can use us in new ways, faith that we can build flocks, expand the Family, and facilitate the Gospel being "preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations" (Mat.24:14).

3. Faith is vital. It's the first step. It's what will enable us to walk through open doors, take advantage of golden opportunities, and follow God wherever He leads. It's what will help us to say yes to Jesus at every turn--yes to taking a risk, yes to trying a new method in our winning, yes to taking the time to minister to that person He puts in our path, yes to not giving up on some needy soul, yes to whatever His will may be.

4. God is thinking big when it comes to the Offensive--and to get big results, we need big faith! Faith is what will drive us, help us to do the impossible, and to put action behind our beliefs and visions, to persevere

when things are tough, and catapult us over obstacles. Faith is also what will help us to wield the spiritual weapons, which are vital in our witnessing and winning. As the Lord said, "All the weapons work together; they're all powerful and all needed, but faith is the secret to using any of them to their full potential" (ML #3658:30, GN 1220).

5. Sometimes faith seems a little bit mysterious, but it's actually not complicated. You don't have to try so hard to dissect it or understand it. We live by faith and walk by faith and it's our "title deed," but faith is also manifested by action and obedience. It's a "doing" word, because faith without works is dead (James 2:26). You don't have to feel like you have faith, or think that you have great faith. Just start doing the things that faith gives you the power to do, and you'll realize that you truly do possess this valuable treasure--and the more you use it and feed it, the stronger it will get.

6. (Dad:) You've seen those space shuttles launch in movies or documentaries, and the boosters that fire up so much power that it propels the shuttle into space. Your faith is like those boosters, and both individually and cumulatively you have immense power. But that power has to be put into action; it has to be ignited. The fuel and energy contained in those boosters is useless unless it's powered up.

7. Unlike those boosters on a space shuttle that are rapidly used and then fall off as the rocket and shuttle make their way further into space, your faith will remain strong and powerful as the energy that will drive the Offensive forward. Faith is what will stir you to put God's Word into action, to believe that all things are possible, and to make them happen.

8. When building a flock and cultivating supporters, you will have abundant and regular opportunities to put your faith into action, to stretch it, and to see it grow and be strengthened. When you talk to someone about the Lord, you're using your faith weapon. When you overcome your shyness and you do something that's a little difficult or "scary" or out of the ordinary, you're using your faith weapon. When you hear from the Lord about the specifics regarding your outreach, you're using your faith weapon.

9. Believing that you have something that everyone needs requires faith, because you have to have the boldness to act on that

belief. You also need faith to preach the radical doctrines and the meat of the Word. Faith, in this case, translates into conviction and not fearing persecution or harm to your reputation.

10. You need faith to act and be professional, even if you feel like a nobody. You have to present yourself as God's ambassador, and that takes faith--both the preparation and the action itself. Faith will also help you to take on new roles, even if they're not your favorite, and to shoot for bigger goals as you expect better results and expect more of yourself.

11. Asking for help and support or tithes from individuals in the world takes faith. Reaching the rich takes faith. Challenging people to drop out and serve the Lord takes faith. Everything--from becoming financially stable to becoming more professional--takes faith. Ours is a walk of faith, a life of faith, and our goal is to attract others to our faith life, to impart to them the faith that we have, and to teach them how to use the weapon of faith in their lives too, starting with having the faith of a little child to accept the gift of salvation.

12. Dad recently told us: "Faith is the heartbeat that will circulate the blood of God's power through the Offensive to make it the alive and world-changing future He's promised it will be." Faith--faith in ourselves, faith in each other, faith in the Lord's promises, faith in our spiritual weapons--is what will make the miracles of the future a reality for us.

13. (Jesus:) Have you ever seen those sports interviews in which they're interviewing an athlete after a victory or a game that they won and they ask them what gave them the edge? What gave them the upper hand so that they were able to defeat their adversary? They often say confidence that they believed in themselves, they believed in their team, and they believed that they could win.

14. Faith is having confidence in Me. Faith is knowing that you can trust Me completely--not just to be there with you, but for a victorious outcome. Faith knows that no matter what comes your way, or what you face, I will bring you through it; I will get the victory for you regardless of the circumstances.

15. (Jesus:) My friends, you're in the faith business, and thus you've got to invoke a faith business plan. Believe it or not, that requires more than just working on buffing up your faith to get it all shiny and looking

good. Faith is at its finest when it's been through the wringer and still comes out with a grin. That's how durable your faith should be.

16. Be businesslike about putting your faith into action. You have to do your part in the spirit by feeding it and nourishing it through your times with Me and My Word, but then faith has a work element to it as well. Faith is what transfers something from a nice thought to a world-changing action. There's nothing laid back about faith; it's willing to get off its rump, roll up its sleeves, and work hard. It's prepared for action; in fact, it **makes** the action.

17. Witnessing and winning the world for Me is a work of the spirit, but it's equally a work in the physical realm. Reaching the lost and building a work is a wonderful plan, but faith is what will take you from the plan to reality. Faith is not an indefinable mystery that simply is or isn't present in your life. You can work at it; you can cultivate it into existence through practical steps, and then you can take what you've learned and put it into practice. That's what you're meant to do with faith--put it into action. Faith is not complete without the action; it's a package deal. You have to work your faith to prove its existence.

18. Too many of you think that the Offensive will either succeed or it won't, and it's out of your power to do anything about it. That's not faith talking--that's carnal reasoning! Switch that around and get your faith talking; get your faith out front! If it seems a little shaky at first, don't worry; the Offensive will groom your faith in unprecedented ways.

19. I'm here to show you just what faith means and what it does! Faith will rock your world, because it will not just dream wild dreams, it will set about to do them, and with My help it will achieve them.

20. (Jesus:) Faith isn't something you just "have" naturally. You gain it through putting Me to the test and experiencing My power. Faith is built up one layer at a time, ever increasing your size and strength, till you become a quarterstaff in My hand to beat down the most aggressive foe. Faith grows, it's built over time, and the more your faith is tested, the more faith you'll have.

21. Expect Me to strengthen your faith by putting you in faith-inducing situations. They are generally pretty trying at the time, but always result in greater faith if you put Me to the test and watch Me do the miracle. With time, you will be strong enough to stand firm in the fiercest of

gales.

How?

22. * Be willing to take steps, especially if they stretch your faith. For example, maybe the Lord will lead you to someone who appears to be upper class and open the door for a conversation. If so, take advantage of His open door, even if you feel out of your league or are intimidated. Or, if you feel incapable of teaching a Bible class to a group of people, start out small by teaching one person, until you feel more comfortable and confident and can then teach a group of people.

23. * Manifest your faith by taking initiative, by thinking outside of the box and breaking out of your mold or comfort zone when it comes to your witnessing, winning, and teaching methods.

24. * Let your mind stretch. Your faith is almost always limited by your mind and what you are willing to accept as possible. Push the barriers back. Explore the uncharted in your witnessing and winning methods.

25. * Don't let past failures, or fear of future failures, hold you back.

26. * Settle on a plan to put your faith into action, even if it's a plan that you know will stretch you, or that you don't feel ready for. Tossing around a variety of ideas is a good first step, but there comes a point where you have to round up the valid ones and select your course of action.

27. Once you have your course of action, determine a first step. So many good ideas go nowhere because the first step isn't taken.

28. Don't stop with a good first step; have a projection you're working with that will get you to your goal.

29. It's likely that not every element of your projection will work out as planned. When that happens, realign your projection and then keep moving forward.

30. * The basic principle of all faith-and-action rules is **doing!** Get started. Once you know the Lord's plan, get to it.

31. * Be willing to do the hard work that comes with putting your faith into action. Faith is the underlying belief that a plan is workable and achievable. But any great venture requires slogging it out at times, elbow

grease, and perseverance to see it through, and sometimes even to simply get it off the ground.

32. * Invest time in proving your faith once you know something is God's will. Don't fizzle out at the first sign of trouble. Don't give up too soon. Faith takes the challenges, both expected and unexpected, as they come, and tackles them matter-of-factly. It doesn't just will them away; it devises a plan for the solution and then puts it into effect.

33. * Be positive but also be realistic. Putting faith into action does not mean you're unrealistic. It means that while you're projecting into the future and aiming toward the heavenly vision, you are also translating what that means into practical, everyday steps that you can take with God's help.

34. * Faith requires a will to work. Faith doesn't lazily wait for a bolt of lightning from the sky before acting. The "bolt" may be on its way, but faith won't be idle during that time; faith will be hard at work, both trusting the Lord and also actively doing what it can.

35. * Don't feel bad about having to change plans a little along the way. Faith is not afraid to adapt plans, because it's confident that God is in control. Change is a fellow laborer alongside faith.

36. * Don't be stuck in a rut as to where your faith can take you. Expect that it can take you great distances, and then get busy proving that.

37. * Expect some setbacks, but don't let them hold you back. Learn to work around, over, under, or even through them if need be. Setbacks often bring to light elements that were not fully accounted for in your plan, and as a result they can help your plan to be more successful in the long run. Faith will give you the right outlook on setbacks and help you take advantage of them as stepping stones to success.

(Jesus:) Faith is at its finest when it's been through the wringer and still comes out with a grin. That's how durable your faith should be.

38. * Realize that different people are gifted with faith for different situations--some for healing, others for supply, others for receiving specifics from the Lord in prophecy, etc. Make a way for people to be used in their areas of "faith expertise."

39. * Celebrate the victories along the way, even the little ones. Even

celebrate the unexpected problems you had to resolve that then resulted in victory. Be sure to credit faith in your victories, so that you see how the Lord took your faith, stretched it, purified it, shaped it, and then through it gave you results.

40. * Meeting together regularly with your witnessing committee can be a boost, because together you can help to strengthen and bolster each other's faith and cheer each other on. You can hear from the Lord together, encourage one another in obedience to what the Lord shows you, and evaluate your progress along the way.

41. * Ask for prayer from others if you feel your faith is under attack by the Enemy. Fight back at the first sign of the Enemy's attacks, so you can nip it in the bud before you are weakened spiritually and rendered less effective in your witness.

42. * When things don't turn out as you expect them to in your witnessing and winning and building your flock, ask the Lord why. Part of strengthening your faith is taking things back to the Lord for His insight and reasoning, and not just assuming that things were a failure or that they just didn't work, or thinking that you didn't hear clearly from the Lord. If you just assume that you got things wrong, then that can weaken your faith. However, hearing from Him about such situations can tremendously strengthen your faith.

43. * Be faithful with your minimum Word requirements. Also, read the Word on topics that are pertinent and appropriate to your current witnessing and winning endeavors. The Word always helps to strengthen your faith and increase your vision. Then the Enemy won't be able to use your lack of faithfulness as a "cigar" that curtails and limits your faith by taking away your confidence that you're in line to receive God's blessing and answers to prayer because you're obeying.

44. * Listen to faith-building stories and testimonies from others. Seek them out.

45. * Be around people with faith. Don't hang around people who lack faith. (That's one of the best ways to either feed or kill your faith.)

46. * Hear from the Lord personally regarding your specialized calling and role in the Offensive, specifically when it comes to the part that you play in your Home. This will give you more faith for what you need to do,

and will also help you to accept and use your anointing more fully.

47. * Keep a log of answered prayers and fulfilled prophecies. It's a great faith booster and also an excellent praise time aid.

48. * Ask the Lord how to use your faith more in your witnessing, and how to try something new and different that will put your faith to the test. The muscle of faith doesn't grow or get stronger by staying within your comfort zone. Once you've gotten one step down, then take the next one; just like an athlete who trains with heavier weights once he's mastered a certain level. Your faith grows and gets stronger by doing new and different things and exercising your faith more.