



FAITH IS TRUSTING



**AND
KNOWING**

Faith is Trusting and Knowing

Compilation 5 - 01 of The Children of David's pubs on the subject, by <http://theaudiokey.com> team
(All prophecies are Jesus speaking unless otherwise indicated.)

What is Faith?

My dear ones, faith is not a complex matter. There are complex situations, but faith itself is simple. Faith is knowing--knowing that I Am, knowing that I love you and want to help you, knowing that My promises are for you personally, knowing that I answer prayer, knowing that I will do it, even though that knowledge may run contrary to every one of your senses. Faith is knowing, no matter what your sight or your mind says.

Little children have faith and are good examples of faith. They have faith in their parents. They know that if they cry, someone will come; if they are hungry, that they will be fed; if they need help, that they will receive it. So should you be, and so should your faith be--like children, with childlike faith. I often used the example of children when teaching, calling little children unto Me and telling My disciples that they should be like them, that they should humble themselves and receive the Kingdom of God and the things of the Kingdom like little children--trusting, knowing, having faith (Luke 18:15-17; Matthew 18:2-4).

Faith does not waver or doubt. It may be tempted to do so, and it may have thoughts of doing so, for I know that you are not perfect. But in the end, faith stands, for it believes in Me, and it is persuaded that I am well able to do what I have promised (Romans 4:21). Faith is convinced that I am able to do exceeding abundantly above all that you ask or think (Ephesians 3:20). Faith knows that there is nothing too hard for Me, and that with Me, all things are possible (Mark 10:27; Luke 1:37). Faith knows that I am faithful to My Word. Faith has full assurance that I will do it, for it knows Me and it knows My will.

When you have faith, your heart is fixed, trusting in Me, and you are not moved by bad news or evil tidings (Psalm 112:7). You do not have a doubtful mind, but one which steadfastly trusts in Me. You do not cast away your confidence, your faith, nor do you waver, like a wave of the sea, driven with the wind and tossed (Hebrews 10:35; James 1:6). You know I can do it, I want to do it, and I will do it. That is faith, which greatly pleases Me, for this is the era of faith--of trusting and knowing, even though you cannot see Me and have nothing to stand on but My Word.

It is given to every man to have a measure of faith (Romans 12:3)--faith to receive Me and to enter My Kingdom. Thereafter, you must build your faith and grow your faith, and there are many ways of doing so. You can ask Me for the gift of faith, which is one of the gifts of My Spirit, and I will give it to you (1 Corinthians 12:9). You can ask Me to increase your faith (Luke 17:5). I am both the author and finisher of your faith (Hebrews 12:2).

You also increase your faith through My Word. Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God (Romans 10:17). The more you read My Word, the more faith it inspires and nurtures in you. My Word builds your faith, as do testimonies of faith. When you hear or read of answers to prayer, miracles of healing or supply or deliverance or more, your faith

grows. You become even more convinced that what I have done in the past, I am able to do again, and will do again, because I am the same yesterday, today, and forever (Hebrews 13:8).

Faith--one of My favorite topics to expound on. After all, it's the foundation principle on which your lives are built. It's the means by which you please Me. It's the access code to miracles. It's the core reason you allowed Me into your hearts. (1)

Faith is a fundamental principle in a Christ-centered life. It's a beautiful quality that declares your trust in My power and ability to care for you. Having faith in Me is part of your witness; it's a declaration to others that regardless of your circumstances, you remain certain that I am looking out for you.

As you face the future and the options before you, don't lose that personal assurance of faith in Me and My promises to care for My Own. Faith must remain a resolute feature in your Christian life and walk with Me wherever you go. Your faith is what will give you the confidence to walk upon the new pathways that I've highlighted for you. It will enable you to explore the different things that you can do in the physical, but to ultimately rely on Me to make up the difference in the spirit.

No matter what you can do in the physical, there are certain dynamics within the spirit that must be accomplished in the spirit alone. The success of your future is about the combination of your faith in Me and your practical effort both working together to bring about the results I'm after. Both are needed, and together they will culminate in success. (2)

It took faith for Me to come to Earth and to believe that I could make a difference as a human. It took faith to believe in My Father's plan, that I could actually accomplish something as great as changing the course of the history of the world by the love I showed in living and dying for mankind. But My Father's plan worked!

It takes faith to believe that I have a plan for your life and that you are following it. It takes faith to believe that you are actually making a difference in the hearts and lives of others. But you will see, as I did with My Father's plan, that you are accomplishing My will and doing what I have called you to do. (3)

Faith is a cornerstone in your life. It's your proclamation to Me and to others that I am God and that you have every confidence in Me.

You can sometimes take your faith for granted, or deduce that the best way to make up for a lack of faith is to work harder in the arm of the flesh. But if you want to experience the full power of faith in your life, then you have to take the time to groom it by investing time in strengthening it through My Word; that's the secret.

There's no substitute for faith. I've ordained faith to be that link between you and Me, the means by which you hold tightly to Me in every situation. (4)

When you're in a trying situation, that's when you realize the full value of faith. At times

it seems trite and unnecessary to be investing so much time and effort in strengthening your faith, but when everything else in your life is gone, when you have nothing else to lean on but your faith in Me, then you find out how important it truly is.

Faith grows and is strengthened in trying times, but you need something to draw on--a foundation, a strong connection with Me, and a ballast of Word in your heart. Otherwise your faith will falter and your heart will grow weary. So be wise, My brides, and strengthen your faith today while you live in times of peace, because you never know when your faith in Me will be the only thing on this Earth that you have left to cling to. (5)

How do you know if you have faith?

One simple diagnostic test is found in the poem: "When you're trusting, you're not heard to fret; when you're fretting, you're not trusting yet!" Which are you doing?

If your faith is being tested--whether it's with financial problems, lack of personnel, learning a new job, opening a new Home, working with a difficult personality, trusting Me for decisions that your children are making, waiting for Me to answer a specific prayer that you have prayed, feeling alone, health-related issues, marriage problems, anything--take a look at your attitude and ask yourself which is more prominent: faith, praise, and trust?--Or fretting, doubt, and worry?

If you want to know where your faith lies, try that little self-test. If you have full faith in Me, then you won't be fretting about the problems, the seeming impossibilities, or the difficulties. Your faith will be planted in praise, and you'll carry My hope in your heart. But if you don't really have faith in Me to come through, then you will be beset with the worries and mental torment of the Enemy.

Of course, there will be times in your life when your faith is tested. If you're faced with a really difficult situation, you may be tempted with worry, doubt, or fear of the future. But just because you're tempted with those negative feelings and thoughts doesn't mean that you don't have full faith in Me--as long as you go on the attack against those thoughts and fight to keep taking on My Spirit and attitude of faith.

Faith is active. There is nothing passive about faith. Faith is doing! So even if you are tempted with worries or fears, if you are active in your fight against the Enemy and in your desire to hold on to your faith and apply your faith, then your faith will stand and I will come through for you.

You can't keep the birds of fear and worry and doubt from flying over your head, but you need to keep them from building a nest in your hair. You need to fight against those worries and attacks of the Enemy becoming a part of your attitude and mindset. It's a fight to hold on to faith, but it's worth every minute of the battle.

In addition to this self-test, you can always ask Me if you aren't sure whether or not you have the faith for something. You can't go by your feelings, because they aren't a correct gauge of your faith. You can, however, go by what I tell you. Don't worry if you don't feel like you have faith. Most men and women with strong faith don't have strong feelings. If I tell you that you have faith, then that's the fact you should hold on to.

If you're about to take a leap of faith, and you think you may have the faith, as you're trusting Me and counting on Me and you believe that I can come through for you--but you're still not quite sure if your faith is strong enough or adequate enough--ask Me. I'll show you where your faith lies, and if it's not quite centered, I'll show you just what to do so that you can have the full measure of faith that is needed.

Faith is an almost insane belief in My ability to come through for you. I always bless faith. When you truly stake your life on faith and throw all other possibilities out the window and expect Me and Me alone to come through for you, I am challenged to do even more for you than I may have originally planned. Maybe I was going to work in a certain way in your life, but because of your almost absurd stand of faith on Me and My promises, I alter that plan and give you what you are asking for, because your faith is that strong. (6)

The Golden Key of Faith!

Faith is the true coinage of Heaven. Faith is the key that unlocks the treasure house of My blessings--My spiritual blessings, My material blessings, all of My blessings. For without faith, it is impossible to please Me. For he that comes to Me must believe that I am the rewarder of those that diligently seek Me. And why would you seek Me unless you had the faith that I would hear and I would answer and I would honor your faith and honor My Word, My promises to you?

I am not a man that I should lie, nor the son of man that I should repent. Have I said and shall I not do it? Have I not promised that I will supply your every need, that I love to give more than you love to receive, that I would open the windows of Heaven and pour out a blessing you could not contain, if you would but trust Me and believe My Words and obey them?

But you have not because you ask not. You do not stop to ask Me specifically for the answers to your situation, your problems, what I want you to do. I know your situation. I know your every problem. I know every tiny detail, and I have a great plan that I am waiting to unfold at the touch of your faith. Your faith can release the power of the universe! Your faith can move mighty mountains of obstacles and difficulties! Because if you put your faith in Me and My Words, I will move the mountains, I will overcome the obstacles, and I will provide the solutions.

Faith is opening the door, stepping back, inviting Me in, and saying, "Lord, You do it. We hold You to Your promise! We take the step in the direction You say to go. We step out by faith, trusting You to meet us, and we know that You will."

Faith is the key to the life of a Christian, to the life of My missionaries, My children. It is the key to faithfulness and blessing and provision and power and protection and inspiration and receiving every good thing that I wish to bestow upon My precious children whom I love.

Do you believe that I love you? Do you have faith in My Love, in My care, in My provision, and in My protection? Do you believe that, as a most loving and caring and doting Husband, I would not leave My wife comfortless, without the utmost care, without her needs met, without guidance and direction, without the solutions to her problems, the grace for

every situation?

Nay, I could not be such a Husband that would neglect the care of a wife so precious unto Him! For you are My precious one, My darling Bride, My yielded and obedient wife who seeks to do My slightest bidding, who loves Me with all of her heart and who lays down her life and body in service for Me, because of her great love for Me and My children. Would I not care for her as My beloved? Would I not cherish her as the precious treasure she is unto Me? Would I not help her and deliver her from every evil thing and provide her every need and surround her with My Love? Yea, I will do all of these things, and more.

But the key is faith--faith in My Love, faith in My promises, faith to obey in spite of the odds, in spite of overwhelming obstacles and seemingly impossible situations. For this is the proof of My Bride's love--her faith in Me, her faith in My Words, and her faith in My power to fulfill them. Her great love for Me is manifest in her faith--the golden key of faith.

So guard this precious treasure I have given you, this golden key of faith. It is something that must be kept through constant care and nurturing and feeding from My Words, which are spirit and life. By doing these things, by believing and receiving and imbibing and drinking in and partaking of My Words, you keep the golden key of faith bright and shiny and polished, and you will be well able to use it to open many mighty doors of My blessings for all that you need in every area of your life. For you are My precious Bride and loving wife, and I love you. (7)

Believe and Receive!

Are you believing, and thus receiving? Or are you waiting to receive so that you can believe? It is your faith that pleases Me. It is your faith, the fact that you believe, that you stand upon My Word, that draws down the blessings that I have for you. The blessings come no other way, for you must believe in order to receive.

I ask you to prove Me, to try Me, to test Me! I ask you to stand upon My Word, nothing wavering, believing in the unseen, and thus will you receive and your faith will be increased. You will see that he that puts My Word to the test is he that receives the blessings from My hand. He that stands upon My Words, upon all that I have spoken, he it is who receives My blessing, he it is who sees miracles, he it is who sees the working of My Spirit and who rejoices to see My hand move upon his life.

So if you wish to receive, then believe. Take the stand, count it done. Read My Word, believe it, do it, stand upon it, and you will receive My blessing, and you will then know that My Word is true. There's only one way to find out, and that is to put it to the test, stand upon it, trust in it and see Me move, see Me work, and see Me pour forth My blessings upon you, upon your loved ones, and upon your life. (8)

Cut reality down to size

Your faith in Me can move mountains. Even with just a grain of faith, you can say to the

mountain, "Be removed and be cast into the sea," and it shall be done. It's the same principle with spiritual mountains. You can remove the mountains in your life--the mountains of jealousy, of comparing, of resentment, of resistance.--And you are moving them!

Day by day, bit by bit, by calling on Me and the power of the keys, and receiving My Words, you're exploding spiritual dynamite, which is blowing holes in the mountains of difficulties and weaknesses in your life. Every time you call on Me, every time you come to Me earnestly, setting your own will aside and desiring Mine, you are detonating powerful ammunition which blasts the work of the Enemy. He can never refill those holes as quickly as you're blowing them up; and in time, the mountains will be seen again for what they truly are--just little molehills.

Their seeming like such big mountains is just in your mind and a matter of perception in the first place. Once you realize how much of the difficulty and battle is because of the Enemy's lies and lying vanities, the mountains get cut down to size, and you understand that they're not as difficult to get rid of as you thought. You feel discouraged sometimes now because the mountains seem really big; they almost seem insurmountable. Well, they are there and they do need to be overcome, but they're not as scary and foreboding as you think--because you have more power than you realize you do.

It's kind of like those characters in the movie "The Matrix." When they would go into the matrix, they could do things that other people could not. It wasn't because they were so special, or even had special power per se. It was because their eyes had been opened, and they realized that the trap that had gotten everyone else was not even reality. It took effort and it was certainly a fight, but they knew they could overcome, because they knew that the danger and power of evil wasn't as bad as it looked, that things that appeared did not have to be.

That's a very important spiritual principle for you to remember, when the battles seem so big and you feel that things are hopeless. The Enemy's the one trying to make you feel that way, and trying to make you forget the power that you have in Me and My Spirit--power through faith, which is great enough to move all the mountains! (9)

Grab Ahold of God's Promises Personally for Yourself

Perhaps you've never taken the time to really think about how you view God's promises for you, as an individual, and what you can personally expect from Me. Maybe you've had more of an academic relationship with the promises in My Word; you've mentally accepted them, but still kept them at a distance. You've held them out, far away from your heart and personal situation, sized them up, admired them, and accepted them, but there's something stopping you from believing them for yourself personally.

What you need to do, My love, is not just see My promises of victory as beautiful words on the page, and set them on a table and admire them, and even talk about them with others affectionately, or touch and pet them as you repeat them in reverence. This is all well and good, and it's respectful and I appreciate it, but that approach isn't going to make them work for you. You need to be much more passionate in your approach to My promises. You

need to look at them as words given for you, and only you. Just as I died for you, as if you were the only one, likewise I gave My promises for you, as if you were the only one. They are for you, personally, individually, eternally!

If you can believe that, then the next step is to grab those promises and clutch them close to your heart. Cherish them, love them, embrace them. Can you see that this goes so much further than simply acknowledging them or mentally saying, "Oh, that's good, that's beautiful, that's the truth of God"?

Grab those promises off the table, clutch them desperately to your chest and guard them with your life, saying, "Hey, these are mine! They were made for me, created for me, they're mine! They're exactly what I personally need, and they fit me like a glove, like a fine handmade suit that was tailored to my specific measurements. They fit every single situation that I'll ever come up against in my life, and no one is going to convince me otherwise!"

If you can have this relationship with My promises to you, then things will change for you. The way you look at battles, attacks, spiritual problems, afflictions, and everything you come across in the war will be different. That's because you will have more faith. Then the Word, My promises, will give you faith, and that's the starting point when fighting and defeating the Enemy. Faith is your "biggest and baddest weapon." Yes, 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.

There are so many promises in My Word. When I explain the spiritual warfare, I give you promises as I show you what power you have, what you stand to gain, what you can do to defeat your adversaries. When I talk to you about the spiritual weapons, either those you're more familiar with or those that are recently revealed, I explain what those weapons can do for you and the power they have over the Enemy. When I explain the future and your role as My Endtime prophets, I give promises of power, wisdom, anointing and victory.

My Word is full of promises. There are those you're more accustomed to quoting from the Bible, that you've heard for years and years, and there are some quotes from the Letters that have become much-used promises, and there are new ones in the GNs and key promise book--but all these promises have power to give you faith, if you can believe that they're for you personally. That's how My brides often suffer lack today. They believe, but not personally. They accept, but not personally. They apply the promises, but not personally.

What I mean is that you distance yourself from My promises, and therefore you don't think they're for you as an individual, and that takes away your power. So the challenge is to grow in personal applied faith. You can do that through a few simple steps.

First, you believe that I have victory over the Enemy in any and all situations, no matter what. There is victory for you, period. No ifs, ands, or buts about it.

Second, you accept that the promises in My Word are for you, personally. In spite of your weaknesses, sins or shortcomings, My promises are for you. I died for you, as if you were the only one, and I gave My promises for you, as if you were the only one. These specific promises will give you faith for whatever situation you personally face, because I have given promises to match any and all circumstances.

Third, you fight any inclination toward self-righteousness or negativity that would talk

you out of having faith to apply those promises to whatever battle or challenge you're facing. Don't make yourself an exception and explain away My power by thinking you're not good enough, that you don't deserve My power, victory or deliverance. Don't let your knowledge of the requirements and the intricacies of how things work in the spirit world take away your faith, because when you do that, you're looking at your lacks instead of My power and awesome greatness.

Last of all, protect, nurture and feed your faith. Know that faith is the "meanest and baddest" of your weapons and that's the starting place to great miracles. With faith, you can use all the weapons, and there's plenty there to defeat any demon from Hell, no matter how persistent or powerful he may be. He's not and never will be and never can be as powerful as Me! (10)

Let Me ask you something. Do you believe that I love you? Do you believe I died for you? Do you believe that you are My child, one I know personally and care about? I have spoken many words to try to convey My love to you, and done many things in your life to manifest Myself, My love, and My power to you in a personal, tangible way.

Now I want you to think about this carefully. If you can believe that I love you, that I care about you, and that I am God, and thus am all-powerful, all of which are part of your foundation of faith--shouldn't it stand to reason that My promises are for you personally as well? If you are My child, why would I not include you in My promises? If you really think about it, you'll see there's actually no logical reason to think they wouldn't be for you.

I am not a man that I should lie. I am true to My Word and true to My promises. What I have promised, I am able to perform. Do you believe that? Do you believe that I am capable of anything?

My power is so great, I am capable of working through you, and I mean you personally. It doesn't matter how you feel about yourself, your abilities, your talents, your spirituality, or whatever it is that you think makes you unworthy or incapable of being used by Me. I am greater than all that.

If you're focused on yourself, of course you're not going to be able to believe you can make it and do all the things I'm asking of you. But if you can get your eyes on Me and really grasp the concept that it's all Me and My power, you'll start to see things closer to the way they really are.

If you're obeying, and doing the things I've asked of you personally, then you can ask Me for a boost of faith to appropriate My promises. Then put Me to the test, and stand back and enjoy, because I will come through for you in ways you never thought possible! (11)

(Dad speaking:) Don't let the Enemy keep you from partaking of the miracles, rewards, fulfillment, happiness and blessings that the Lord wants to give you by convincing you that they're not for you, not yours to apply, or that you're not worthy. Hold tight to His promises and don't let go! Say with Jacob, "I will not let Thee go except Thou bless me!" That's the kind of faith that gets results! (12)

I want to lift the weight of uncertainty from your shoulders, and ask that you hold on to your faith and trust in My promises. I want you to hold on to the knowledge that no matter how dark or impossible something seems, I have never failed My children, and I am in control. These are things that will never change. No matter what the test or difficulty or impossibility that you or others are facing, I am there, and I give you My song of victory, My promises of sufficient grace, My unfailing power to overcome all obstacles. I will enable you to go forward with My peace of mind and assurance that I do all things well. (13)

Take Me at My word! That's all there is to it! Then there will be no loss, only gain, as you pave the way for the glorious future through your solid faith and belief in Me and what I promise to do for you and yours. (14)

I will give you faith as you hang on to My promises and put them into action. (15)

The gift of faith in Me and faith in My promises, faith no matter what the circumstances, is one of the greatest gifts My children can have. (16)

I love it when you put Me on the spot. What husband doesn't like to show off his prowess and his ability to be there for his sweetheart? I'm the same way with you, My loves. Nothing is a greater compliment of your trust and dependence on Me than expecting Me to do the impossible, and that kind of faith is the perfect platform for miracles. (17)

The only true reality lies in Me and My promises. I'm able to defy the laws of nature that I've put in place if I so desire. Don't limit Me. Don't let the Enemy's doubts limit your faith. Fight militantly to hold on to your faith and to cherish and hone the weapons I've given you so that you may have the strength wherewith to fight the battle, to defy the impossible, to rise above. (18)

As you exercise this gift of faith, step out on the water of My promises and you'll see things change before your eyes. This is an active gift--a living, pulsating, spiritual gift. As you walk by faith, the doors will open before you, the waters of difficulty will part, the mountain of impossibility will be scaled. (19)

As you grasp My promises and follow by faith and not by sight, you will reap the visible and earthshaking results. (20)

It is your declaration of faith, your outward show of faith in Me and My Word and My promises that moves My hand. It is in your casting of yourself utterly and completely on Me that I am well pleased, and in this I am able to live and think and move in you to full measure. It is faith that saves! (21)

There is never a right time to stop believing in Me and My promises. There is nothing--

no hardship, no problem, no adjustment trials, no personal battles, no questions--that should cause you to give up your faith that I will work out everything. Everything is going to be all right. Trust Me through all the bumps in the road that you experience. Keep your eyes focused on the road ahead, and know that I have gone before you to prepare the way, and to show you exactly how to get to your destination. (22)

There's nothing I will not do for the children of David! There are gold mines of financial supply and gold mines of spiritual blessings that are there waiting for someone to reach out with the hand of faith and grasp them, to take hold of My promises, to avail themselves of My promises.

These things are available to you! Are you reaching for them? Are you striking out by faith to follow My Words? (23)

It's Good to Have Simple Childlike Faith

Many of My children who were greatly used in the past had a simple and childlike faith due to the simplicity of the times in which they lived. There is nothing wrong with very simple and childlike faith--that is the best kind. But in these days, you have to work harder to keep that simple, childlike faith, because there is so much more knowledge of the world fighting against that faith. In these days of the End is the knowledge of evil manifested as never before, and it is impossible to not be infected to at least some extent with it. It is only through My Words and My Spirit that the Enemy's filth and poison can be washed away. So it is necessary for you to be flooded and flushed as never before with My Words, that you may remain strong and full of faith.

Simple childlike faith is not necessarily naïve, uninformed or immature. To the contrary, it is simply choosing to believe Me in spite of all other knowledge or possibilities or conflicting opinions. That's what faith is--it's belief, and in this case, belief in Me and My Word. You can be very well rounded and educated and still maintain that simple faith, through determining that you are going to believe Me above all others, no matter what others say.

Granted, it's harder to keep that simple faith when you do investigate other possibilities, because faith is not based on anything you can see or touch or prove--that's why it's called faith. But it is possible to keep that faith. And that is what I have asked of you, My children. I have given you so much in order to help answer your questions, so that you might reach the point where you realize that I have the answers to everything, whether you know them or understand them or not, and you choose to believe. But you must make that choice yourself. Otherwise, you can be caught in a cycle of ever learning, yet never coming to a knowledge of the truth--that unshakable, unmovable, childlike, simple faith. (24)

Simplicity is the embodiment of My Spirit. Simplicity is intrinsic. It's a gift I bestow on everyone, and what a great gift it is. For simplicity is the wall of protection around your faith. To lose simplicity is to lift that wall, leaving your faith defenseless against the

threats of doubt, criticalness, and unbelief.

Faith is not provable or explainable--it just is. You so often search for a logical explanation, thriving on the complexity you find in that search, instead of accepting the simple, but miraculous, mysterious and inexplicable way of faith. Strive for simple faith, and there you will find happiness.

I grant the gift of simplicity to all, and it is a valuable gift, for unless you have the simple faith of a little child, you cannot enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Unless you can have the childlike simplicity to believe in the unseen--Me, the One Who died for you and now offers you the simple but miraculous gift of eternal life--then you cannot be born again.

All men do have this gift, although as they grow, some despise it and discount it, calling it superstition or ignorance, preferring to weave a web of complexity to cover it. But the gift remains for those who would uncover it and make use of it. (25)

You can learn much about prayer from a little child, for there is no greater faith than that of a child. A child expects in his heart that I am going to answer his request. He knows what he wants and he tells Me in simple but exact terms.

Your prayers don't have to be complicated. They can be just like the prayers of a little child. Tell Me in simple but exact terms what your request is, have childlike faith that I am going to answer, and then stand back and see Me deliver what you have asked for in faith. (26)

(Dad speaking:) It's wise to be simple. It's wise to be accepting and take things by faith. It's not a sign of lack of intelligence--it's a sign of wisdom. (27)

It's easier for a person to become skeptical, cynical and unbelieving than for someone to become full of faith, trusting, and accepting. This is the nature of man. (28)

The faith of a little child is powerful. It's a gift of God. As adults, sometimes it's easy to lose sight of My promises, but children trust and hold Me to them. They expect Me to do miracles. (29)

Expecting miracles is when the notion that I may not answer doesn't even cross your mind. It's when you can't fathom the idea of Me not supplying or protecting or answering you.

It's the same trust that a toddler has when leaping off the side of a pool into his parents' arms. It doesn't even occur to him that he could fall into the water and drown. So great is his faith that he will end up in strong, caring arms, that he acts--without thinking, without taking into account the probabilities and the risks. The parent rewards that faith by catching him. (30)

Choose to See Things with the Eyes of Faith

You must see things in the spirit! You've got to choose to see things with the eyes of faith, because there's so much that can never be explained in carnal or fleshly terms. There's so much about the dynamics of the spirit, My spiritual gifts, and the workings of the world of the spirit that you will never understand with your human mind, and which will never make sense to the scoffer, the doubter, or the unbeliever. But that's where faith comes in--faith of a little child, faith as a grain of mustard seed, faith that can move mountains, faith that transforms you and gives you understanding.

To choose the road of faith is a choice you have to make! It's a choice no one else can make for you! But it's a vital choice, because when you lose your faith, then you have lost everything, and you're in danger of becoming alienated from My Spirit. (31)

(Dad speaking:) Faith is accepting the things that you don't understand with your carnal mind, things that you can't see with your physical eyes or touch with your hands. It is, as Paul described, the substance of things hoped for, the hupostasis, the title deed, the proof of ownership of things that you may or may not physically hold in your hands. (32)

Yours is a life of faith. It's a life of basing your actions, your choices, your belief system, your everything, on My Word, and ignoring everything else when necessary. It's a life that will be greatly rewarded when you step out of the surreal façade the Enemy so carefully sets up to snare mankind and you're able to see--not through a glass darkly, but face to face--how things truly are. It will be like Neo stepping out of the matrix and seeing reality for the first time. You'll be so glad you gave your life to set others free. (33)

(Dad speaking:) As the Bible says, the carnal mind is enmity against God-hostile to God (Rom.8:7). The carnal mind's first reaction is to resist God's truth if it's something that doesn't fit into the confines of natural human logic. That's the way we were made-the way God created us, as odd as that may seem-because He wanted to introduce the notion of believing by faith. Something that you see, understand completely, touch and feel, doesn't require faith. How much faith did those who saw Jesus perform miracles before their eyes need? Not very much. But those who just heard about it from others or read it in the Gospels needed a lot more faith! That's what the Lord wants to teach us-to have faith!

To understand that concept better, think about how important trust is to you. How important is it to you that your friends and those you love trust you, even if they don't understand you? I'd venture to say it's pretty important. If you felt that you had to prove everything to them, they might believe you because of the proof, but you wouldn't feel it was real trust, and you wouldn't feel that they were real friends who were going to stick by you when things went wrong. In a way, it's the same with God. That's why He deliberately created us with a carnal mind, so that we would have to make an effort to overcome and accept things by faith, thereby manifesting our love and trust in Him. Trust is one of the greatest manifestations of your love for someone. (34)

(Dad speaking:) There are a lot of things the Lord asks us to take purely by faith, and sometimes they simply can't be understood by the carnal mind because they're spiritually discerned.

It's like being saved. How in the world does that make sense? You accept Jesus' atonement for your sins by faith, right? But when you think about it in practical terms, when you first heard about salvation--was it logical? It's not logical to think that some man you not only don't know, but who lived 2,000 years before you, died for you because He personally loved you. That out of all the billions of people who ever lived on Earth, He knew about little ol' you--and you weren't even going to be born for another 2,000 years! To think that just because this guy hung on a cross and died for you, you could be forgiven for all your sins and someday be taken to some far-out paradise where you'd finally meet the guy face to face and live happily ever after for all eternity--not to mention you were asked to believe that He not only died, but He actually rose from the dead three days later--all so that you could now have this man living in your heart--and how does someone else live in your heart anyhow--how much sense does all this make? It takes faith, right?

When Jesus tried to explain the concept of salvation to Nicodemus, He told him, "That which is born of the flesh is flesh, but that which is born of the Spirit is spirit." But Nicodemus had a hard time understanding this whole concept. Why? Because it goes against carnal and logical thinking.

Nicodemus was raised in the jot and tittle of a very literal law dealing with every physical matter imaginable. Most of the Jews were. That's what Jesus came to set them--and us--free from. "The letter of the law killeth." "It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing. The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life."

There's another brainteaser that you've accepted all your life: How can spoken words be spirit and life? This is a truth and principle that your heart and mind have accepted even though it makes no logical sense when you really think of it. And that is why, from the very beginning, when Paul was preaching to the very analytical Jews, the philosophical Greeks, and the carnal Romans, the Lord showed him that the carnal mind was at enmity with God. (35)

The ways and life of faith have not changed from the beginning of time. Those who walk by faith have always and will always be called to believe in the impossible and to trust in the supernatural. They are asked to do things that no one else could possibly do--things that defy logic and natural reasoning. (36)

(Dad speaking:) Folks, I've told you before that God's ways are not your ways. Look at Noah! Nobody had even seen a boat, especially not on dry land! But Noah did what God said and it saved his life, and he received the blessings and the promises were fulfilled. And what about Abraham, standing there looking over the land and God saying to him, "This land will be for you and your seed, and they shall be as the stars in the heavens, a multitude as the sand of the seas!" Those were some pretty big promises, and he had to just take it by faith.

Think about Daniel; he had to have faith that what God showed him was actually a dream that Nebuchadnezzar had had. That was faith! He believed it, and he acted on it, and he was blessed because of it. And what about the prophets of old?--Eating dung, walking naked, virtually doing skits to get God's point across! But these were things God told them to do, and they believed it and they obeyed it, they did it! Even though it seemed ridiculous and certainly was embarrassing, humbling and difficult, yet they did it and were blessed, and the message was given.

See, God doesn't always work the way we think He should. That's because man's mind does not see as God sees. (37)

Put Your Faith into Action

Faith has to be put into action if you expect to see results. Faith without works is dead (James 2:26). Therefore, if you expect to see the results of your faith, you have to show that you have confidence in your faith and are willing to put it into action and take steps in that direction. Faith on its own is not going to bring the victory about; I require that you take steps toward progress.

Some people look on faith as magic--that they just say that they have it, and whoosh, the miracles happen. But that's a bit of an unrealistic outlook on faith, because faith requires action. You must put feet to your faith and do your part so that I can do Mine. Sometimes "doing your part" is taking practical steps and doing something that I show you to do in the physical. Sometimes it's taking action in the spirit, by using the spiritual weapons and by laboring in prayer.

Of course, when it comes to needing faith to meet some great need, it usually means that there is a measure of human impossibility, where you have to rely on Me to come through for you. That is part of the life of faith: You have the faith and trust in Me. You do your part, and in so doing, allow Me to do Mine. However, you have to work on your faith; it's not just a permanent feature in a disciple's life. It's a muscle you work, you tone, and you strengthen--and each challenge you face is another chance for your faith muscle to grow and stretch.

When you find yourself in a predicament where you need a miracle from Me, I want you to claim the victory in faith and confidence. I like it when you put Me on the spot and expect Me to come through for you. But you also have to do your part for the sequence of events to take place. You have to do more than casually fling the word "faith" around in your prayers to Me; you have to be confident in your request and be certain that you have done your part to build your faith.

What exactly does that mean? Well, for starters, faith will do more than just pray a prayer asking for My help; faith will seek Me for the requirements that I expect of you, the action on your part that will help bring about the miracle--whether that is physical action or spiritual action.

For example, let's say you're in need of finances and you bring this request before Me. You have a measure of faith in this respect because I've always come through for you, and

even when you've lacked a little, somehow I made it up in the long run. So you somewhat haphazardly proclaim that you have faith that I will come through for you and provide the needed funds.

However, you leave it at that, without taking the time to hear from Me for the specifics on what I want you to do in order for Me to provide what you need. As a result, you struggle onward without seeing the significant results of your prayers; your faith is shaken a little, and you wonder why I didn't come through this time around. But is it really My fault?

The question to ask yourself in such a situation is: Did you do your best? Did you do all that I wanted you to? In some cases, you failed to ask Me what I wanted you to do from the beginning, so you found yourself floundering about instead. In such a case it's not that you lacked the faith initially, but instead you failed to take the necessary steps to build up your faith to procure the reward. You failed to recognize the next steps in the procedure to victory, and as a result, the outcome that I wanted to give you was delayed and hampered by the lack of effort on your part.

If you'll take that same scenario and fill in those missing elements--after claiming the miracles by faith, you seek Me for My first step and then act on it--you then receive direct benefits through your obedience. As a result, your faith is increased and you're ready to face the next step, and then the next, until you reach your destination. For example, perhaps I would have asked you to do something specific to get the finances you needed, and to read Word to boost your faith in My ability to supply, and to devote 10 minutes of your prayer time every day to claiming My miracle. (38)

It's important for you to know how I want you to express your faith. As faith is action, you need to find out from Me what that action means for you and your particular situation. In some instances, I may tell you that your stand of faith needs to be evidenced through praise and prayer alone. Knowing that, you should fight to praise and pray with all your might; that, then, is the action of your faith.

Or maybe I will show you that your stand of faith would be to go out and do a new method of witnessing, or to ask for united prayer, or to approach your supporters with your request for funds, or to trust Me for your healing, or to move to a new country, or to stay put and endure in the field I've called you to. Perhaps I'll ask you to approach that intimidating person and witness to them, or to take on that project or challenge that you've been hiding from, or even to forsake something that you've been leaning on as a "crutch" that hinders you from fully trusting Me. The action of faith will be different for each individual, for each situation, according to each need.

But if you don't know what "action" faith means for you personally, then you will miss the mark on receiving the rewards of faith. If I show you to pray and praise, but instead you go out and work in the arm of the flesh, thinking that that's your faith, well, then you'll miss out on the complete fruits the true action of faith could've brought you. Or if you pray and wait around, thinking that that's what faith means to you, instead of going out and reaching the lost and petitioning for financial help, you'll also miss out on the full fruits of faith, because you haven't been applying the right action to your faith.

So ask Me what action you must apply to your faith. This way you will be using both "oars" of faith and works, and you can be assured of reaching the full blessings I have for you. (39)

An old Scotsman operated a little rowboat for transporting passengers. One day a passenger noticed that the good old man had carved on one oar the word "Faith" and on the other oar the word "Works." Curiosity led him to ask the meaning of this. The old man, being a well-balanced Christian and glad of the opportunity for testimony, said, "I will show you."

So saying, he dropped one oar and plied the other called "Works," and they just went around in circles. Then he dropped that oar and began to ply the oar called "Faith," and the little boat just went around in circles again--this time the other way around, but still in a circle.

After this demonstration the old man picked up "Faith" and "Works," and plying both oars together, sped swiftly over the water, explaining to his inquiring passenger, "You see, that is the way it is in the Christian life. Dead works without faith are useless, and 'faith without works is dead' also, getting you nowhere. But faith and works pulling together make for safety, progress, and blessing." (Good Thots 2)

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.

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. (40)

Human nature conflicts with unreserved faith in Me. The carnal mind (Romans 8:7) is ever active in weighing up the "logical" explanation for everything, and insisting that you must take action if you want to see results. Action is important, but it doesn't substitute for faith; it has to work in conjunction with faith, otherwise you'll find yourself spinning in place or moving along very slowly. It's the combination of faith plus effort that moves you forward at a quick clip.

So if you want to see progress and success, utilize your gift of faith as you set about doing what you can in the physical. Don't neglect one in favor of the other. When you successfully merge faith and effort, you'll find greater success, because it will be both Me and you working together, and we're a powerful team. (41)

Having the Faith to Obey

(Dad speaking:) It takes great faith to believe something that the Lord has said, especially when it goes against your natural reasoning or human nature. But having the faith to obey is what made the way for God to save the lives of Noah and his family, what proved Abraham was worthy of his promised seed, what enabled God's anointing to fall on Moses to lead his people.

The examples in the Bible of what faith and obedience wrought are endless. Faith and obedience have brought supply and miracles for God's people all throughout the ages, and those same spiritual principles are in play today. If you obey God, even if by faith alone, whatever kind of miracles you need are guaranteed. That's a fact! He'll never fail, if you trust Him and do your part. (42)

(Dad speaking:) He will give you the faith if you will follow and obey Him. (43)

(Dad speaking:) You have to be willing and believing to grab on to what the Lord offers you and says He will do through you. You have to trust and believe that if He says He will anoint you to do something, or that He will speak through you, or give you the grace to obey His will--that He means it, and He will do it if you walk in faith. "As they went, they were healed." (44)

(Dad speaking:) Don't think you always have to understand why, but just obey, because that's how you get the blessings of God! That's where the power and the Spirit of God are, in obedience. If you step out by faith, not even understanding, the Lord will meet you and it will be an exciting adventure! So don't lean to your own understanding, don't sit around trying to analyze it and reason it out. Just go, and you'll experience a freedom that you haven't known before. So don't be afraid to try it! (45)

Trust Me, and obey the things I tell you to do, no matter what circumstances you find yourself in, even if you do not understand.

Moses did not understand how I would help him make it through the Red Sea. Gideon had no idea how I would help him to win the battle with only 300 men. Noah had zero understanding of boats; he didn't even know what a boat was, and it took him 120 years to find out. He couldn't see the end picture when he started recording the dimensions for that ship. He had no idea what the end would be. He simply followed Me one day at a time, one step at a time. He refused to give up, or give in to the crowds who were mocking him. He fixed his eyes on Me and kept them there. That's how he made it through 120 long years--taking things one day at a time, by faith alone. (46)

It takes faith, yes. It takes courage, yes. It takes total abandonment to My will, yes. It takes ignoring the voices crying out to you that "It's impossible." It takes launching out into deep waters, yes. It takes taking the next step, even when you can't see the ground

below or where you'll place your foot. It takes trusting Me because you know you're doing My will, and you know I will not fail you, because I have never failed to see you through. Yet if you'll do this, I will help you and I will make it through you. All you have to do is say yes to Me, call on My help, set your eyes on Me, focus on Me and Me alone, and I will give you the faith. I will give you the courage. I will help you to yield. If you'll call on the power of the keys, I will activate the power within you to defy the impossible and to rise above. (47)

You're grown up. You're mature. I'm asking you to do the things that men of faith do: Step out on the water, walk to Me, and trust that I will keep you afloat. (48)

As you step out by faith to be and do all that I have called you to, even when it looks like you are stepping out into thin air, I will cause the ground to rise up to meet you. (49)

However, if you take a leap of faith and that's all you do--you don't invest anything more, you don't work to feed your faith more than usual, you don't pray daily and desperately for whatever it is that you are expecting Me to do for you, you don't avail yourself of the prayer power of others--then if I don't come through for you, even if something is My will, don't blame Me. My answering your prayers and doing the miracles that you desire is a two-way street. I need your cooperation, and sometimes that's what's overlooked or missing.

Look at the miracles and answers to prayer in the Bible. Sometimes prayers took a while to be answered. Miracles took great desperation. There were steps that those involved had to take in order for My will to be accomplished. Moses didn't just shoot up a short prayer when the Red Sea parted. (See Exodus 14.) There were steps that he had to take. He had to get desperate. He had to ask Me what to do. He had to listen to Me tell him My plan. Then he had to enact My plan. And it wasn't just a matter of lifting up his rod and stretching forth his hand for a moment. It took time for the sea to part so that the children of Israel could walk through on dry land. It was tiring for him to hold up his heavy rod, and to be desperate in prayer at the same time; he grew weary. But what if he had given up? What if he had failed to do what I told him to do? The miraculous story wouldn't have been the same.

What if the people hadn't rolled away the stone when I wanted to raise Lazarus from the dead? He would have remained in his grave--even though it was My will to raise him from the dead (John 11:39-45). So a lot depends not just on your faith and confidence in Me, but also your willingness to fight for what you are asking of Me, through prayer, through using the spiritual weapons, through employing the help of others, through doing whatever I ask of you. (50)

I have promised great miracles to My children, and I was not speaking symbolically. Indeed, My power is limitless, and according to your need and the situation, I will do wondrous things for you and through you!

The requirement for these manifestations of power is faith--your faith to ask Me, to expect, to believe and receive. When you ask Me in faith, I am bound by My Word to give

you what you need. It might not always be what you think you need, but I will always supply, protect, deliver, heal, or resolve the situation in the way that I know is best. Sometimes it will be a quiet miracle that you will know is the answer, but it won't be obvious to others. At other times, for the sake of the witness, I will do wondrous supernatural things as a display of My power to give those who are undecided a chance to believe in and receive Me. (51)

As I have promised, I will never fail you; I'm always here for you. My power is unlimited. The strength of My Spirit is immeasurable, and it is all available to you personally. You just have to have the faith to reach out and grab it, take it, and claim it for yourself. Exercise your faith! Be desperate for My Spirit and My anointing and My strength to fall upon you! Yield to Me, give to Me, become Mine, and I will never fail you! (52)

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- 2.Vitamins: Faith in the God Factor #3820-3821:22
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- 8.Problems and Solutions! Part 5 #3073:61-63
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- 12.Shooting Straight, Part 6 #3505:99
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- 50.Greater Faith, Part 2 #3632:25-27
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