

The Foolish Things of God

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Dedication

I dedicate this book to my wife, my family, and all my brothers and sisters at the IAM Center of Tucson, and the Northern Colorado Regional House of Prayer. From my mother who is 81 to my grand-daughter who is 6, God is raising up His Holy Bride to come forth from the wilderness leaning upon their "Beloved Husband Jesus Christ. It is to this generation of true worshipers, the Bride of the Lord, that I dedicate this book.

Introduction

This little book is a handbook for all those who are hungry to "walk by faith" and not by sight. In August 2007, the Lord opened up a passage of scripture to my spirit, 1st Corinthians Chapter 1:25-29 as the "key" ingredients for a true life in the faith of God. It is critical dear reader that we understand what TRUE FAITH is in the sight of God.

There has been much teaching on faith in the past, but this is a present word for the church in the perilous days we are now living. With all the chaos and confusion that has come to the world, the words of Jesus echoes out to our generation. "When the son of man returns will He FIND FAITH ON THE EARTH?"

That is an incredible statement considering the Lord knew that there would be much teaching of faith 2000 years later, yet He still asked the question. This book is written to help us understand why this question is relevant for our days.

What is true faith? Do we have it and how do we get it? How does God activate faith in a heart of a believer? What is the true purpose for faith? What is our destiny as a people of faith? These are all questions this book is going to try to answer.

In the 1980's, teaching on faith flooded the body of Christ and a movement called the "Word of Faith" movement touched just about the entire Body of Christ. It was a necessary truth to be restored to the Body of Christ because it lifted many out of the hopeless of poverty and despair. It helped the Body of Christ to begin to expect and believe in the power of God once again. Unfortunately, this very same movement produced some great excess and confusion to the Body of Christ.

The teaching of faith began to focus on God prospering and providing for us as a first priority in seeking Him. Many began to try to "use" their faith to get things, houses, cars and stuff. The focus of faith turned from believing in God to believing God to do things for me because we say so. The 1990's brought the teaching back in balance and many of the teachers of the movement corrected the errors being propagated in their names.

Why does God give every man a measure of faith? What is faith's real purpose in the Kingdom of God? I pray the pages you are about to read will help you to understand the "divine" ingredients needed for living an active faith that is ready to walk with God. We will endeavor to learn how "walking" by faith is really the same as "walking in the Holy Spirit." I pray you will open your hearts and spirits to receive this present word from the Lord. May it bring you into the depth of God's love where true and lasting faith is available to all who seek!

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Chapter One

Real Faith

Imagine being one of the twelve disciples in a little boat in the middle of a fierce storm. As you look out into the raging sea, here comes Jesus "walking" on the water. The disciples thought it was His Ghost, but Peter cried out, "**if that is you Lord let me come to you.**" Jesus said, "Come!" (Mth.14:29-33)

As I pondered this event and its importance, I tried to imagine what it must of felt like being in that boat. First, why didn't Jesus come with us in the boat and tell us He is going to join us later? How is He going to get there, take another boat? Secondly, why didn't He come with us if He knew a storm was coming? Third, now that we are in the storm, why isn't He helping me? How often these are the same questions we ask when the storms of life come upon us.

Storms and trials have a purpose in a believer's life. They come to reveal our spiritual development of the character of Christ inside our hearts. We often don't like to see what is in our hearts, but it is necessary. The trials come to reveal what we have of the quality of the Lord's life in us, and what we don't have. They also have another purpose in which this book is going to explore. What could that be? The Lord desires to teach us how to "walk on the water?" We will call this "**walking on the water**" a life of the "**God-Kind of faith.**"

As we go back to the testimony of the disciples in the boat, they thought Jesus (Spirit) was coming to them and not really Him. The ship was sinking. Their first cry was HELP we are going to die! Faintly in the midst of the disciples' cry, another voice is heard coming forth from the midst of the storm. A request from one of the disciples named Peter, "**Is that you Lord?**" What a question?

How often in the midst of the storm do we say, "Lord is this you? Are you really here?" Like Peter we want to know if the Lord is really there in the midst of our crisis. When Peter asks, "Is that you Lord", he begins to focus on something bigger than being saved from the storm. "**Was this really Jesus walking on the water?**" This was the answer Peter needed to know. Why?

His choice was stay in the boat and question if this was the ghost of Jesus like the others or find out if this was really Jesus himself. Peter decided that he was going to find out if it was Jesus himself. He decided if it was Jesus in the flesh, then He would prove it to him by letting him walk on the water with Him. Beloved, we have to decide in whom we are going to believe. Either Jesus is God whom we can put our complete trust in or He is not? When we choose to believe that, **HE IS**, then the **impossible becomes possible!** We begin to use the **faith of God** that He has placed in us and we overcome like Peter!

In the midst of this great storm Peter asked the **CORRECT** question, "**Lord, if that is you let me come to you?**" It was a profound question! From that moment, Peter **NO LONGER** saw the **STORM!** He was now focused on Jesus who was "**walking on the water**" in the midst of the storm. The storm lost its power to a greater power, **JESUS CHRIST!** Peter's eyes got fixed on Jesus and the "**faith of God**" in him rose up and said, "**let me come to you.**"

O beloved reader, what a lesson to learn! When the storms or trials come, there is always someone walking towards us in the midst of them walking on the water. In the deepest hour of the storm, there He is right in front of us. Why? Because He wants to **awaken the faith** He Himself has placed in us, since He has given to every man **"a measure of faith."** (Rom. 12:3) Most believers think faith means **"trying to believe God."** Trying to believe God is really a heart of unbelief and not real faith at all.

True faith came forth from Peter and ***IT SPOKE, "let me come to you!"*** Did you notice Jesus wasn't concerned about the storm at all, He is God! Yet, there He was awakening the **faith of God** in Peter to say, **"let me come."** Jesus reply is startling! He says to Peter, **"COME!"** Peter doesn't see the storm anymore, but His eyes become fixed on Jesus. He gets up in the boat and places his foot out of the boat unto the water and then a miracle happens.

The water becomes like concrete under his feet, and He does something that is impossible for a man to do. He walks on the water and starts to come to Jesus. Wow! A human being walks on the water. The natural law of what the water consists of was suspended. **It became like concrete under his feet.** Most of you know the rest of the story, He walks a little way and then starts noticing the storm instead of his eyes being fixed on Jesus and begins to sink and cries, "Jesus save me." Jesus reaches out to him and rescues him and puts him back in the boat and says, "why did you doubt." (verse 31)

That is the real work God is trying to do in us in the midst of the storm, remove all the doubts that He is God alone. **For a moment, Peter stood where no man had gone before.** He did the impossible in the midst of the storm, he overcame it. So, it will be for us, if we look for Jesus in the midst of the storms and listen for His voice say, **"COME!"**

The storm may be still there, but we are lifted up above the storm to walk in a new place of rest in His presence. Knowing just one word to the storm from Jesus will quiet the winds and the seas. Just one word from Jesus, **"COME"** will allow us to walk over the waves and the winds. The bible tells us, **"that the just shall live by faith."** (Hab. 2:4) **"We walk by faith and not by sight."** (2nd Cor. 5:7) **"Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God "** (Rom. 10:17)

This is the lesson Peter had to learn and the lesson the Lord is teaching each one of us. We are called the people of faith. By faith alone do we live and by faith alone do we walk. Paul wrote that his new life in Christ would be by **"FAITH of the Son of God, who loved him, and gave himself for him."** Should we not follow Peter and Paul's example in believing. Should we not live our new life hidden in the secret word Jesus says to Peter, "COME?" The bible asks the question, **"when the Son of man returns will He find faith on the earth?"** (Luke 18:8)

This book is going to answer that question. We are going to begin to look at what **"faith"** is, and how God desires to make us a people of faith. The Lord needs something in us and from us to work with as ingredients. These ingredients in our hearts allow His power to flow through us as He desires. God needs these ingredients in our hearts for **the "faith of God"** to operate in power in our lives.

Remember, Jesus said the **“works I do, you shall also do, and even greater works shall you do because I go to the Father.”** (John 14:12) This is what a life of faith should demonstrate. Let us go on to the next chapter to begin to see what God is looking for as ingredients to make us men and women of “living faith.” Our text for this study is 1st Corinthians 1:25-29 in these verses we will unfold God’s secret ingredients to living a life of faith. A life where we can **“walk by faith and not by sight.”** Get ready beloved reader to dive into the very resource God has placed inside each and every person. In the next chapter we will begin this discovery together.

Chapter Two

The God kind of faith.

The bible tells us in Hebrews 11:6, ***“that without faith it is impossible to please God, for He that comes to God must believe that HE IS, and He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.”*** In Mark 11:22 Jesus says, ***“have faith in God.”*** People say they believe God all the time, but they don’t! Most believers today have faith in their faith, and not the God-Kind of Faith.

I have often said along with others, I am “trying” to believe God, or “trying” to have faith. I am “trying” to stand.” The truth is every time I say those words I am doing the exact opposite, I am in unbelief. Why? Because I am “trying” to do something or get something God has already given me. Romans 12:3 says, ***“that God has given to every man a measure of faith.”*** Beloved I already have faith, the God-Kind of faith living in me.

Mark 11:22 Jesus says, have faith in God. So, what do you mean Pastor, that I am not to have faith in God? The word faith in the Greek means this: to be PURSAUDED, BE CONVINCED IN THE TRUTHFULNESS OF GOD, OR THE FAITHFULNESS OF GOD! Notice it doesn’t say in God, but OF God! Here is the truth about faith. Every time a person “tries” to have faith they fail. They give up, fall short, or turn back in trusting because their faith is based upon what they see and what they must do.

How often do we say, “I can’t do it!” “It is too hard for me!” “I don’t see anything happening.” This proves where our faith is resting, in ourselves or in the world. It is not a faith rooted in God, therefore we never get what God says or become what God wants. We cannot! We will not, for it is not of yourselves but faith is a GIFT FROM GOD! What do you do with a gift? YOU USE IT! When we are “trying to have faith,” we are actually saying we don’t have what we already possess. So, we work at trying to get it. When you are trying to get something you don’t think you have, how can you ever use it?

“Faith is a substance, the substance of things hoped for “. (Heb. 11:1) It is a real substance and it lives in every man according to the word of God. It is a substance we are to use in order to be saved, healed, delivered and to live and receive our daily bread. Most of what we call faith is intellectual believing in the mind. We want to believe. We convince ourselves we believe, but our words and actions speak otherwise just as the children of Israel did when the Lord led them out of Egypt into the promised land. Their faith was based only on what they could see with their own eyes, and so they miserably

failed.

As I mentioned earlier faith is not something you do or try to get. Faith is something we already have, and we must use it. We used it to receive salvation. The measure of the God-kind of faith in us reached up and gained salvation by our simple trusting in the faithfulness of God to save us. The spirit bore witness with the Spirit and we were saved. In order for us to procure all God has promised us, we must stop trying to believe God or have faith in Him. WE ALREADY CAN BELIEVE HIM, IT IS IN US TO DO SO! GOD IS NOT A LIAR! His character and power is not in question.

In Numbers 13: 17-33, Joshua and Caleb came back from spying out the land. They had a different report than the 10 other spies. The ten said surely it is a land flowing with milk and honey and then reported all the negative problems like giants, and big walls. They said, "we are like grasshoppers against them ". Their faith in God led them to despair, to see themselves as nothing, but worse that God was not with them. That is what human faith produces, it screams: GOD IS NOT WITH ME!

Joshua and Caleb had a different spirit. They had a different testimony with God as men who had faith as recorded in Hebrews chapter 4. What kind of faith did they have, the human intellectual kind or the God Kind? They saw exactly the same thing as the 10 spies, but their eyes saw in the FAITH OF GOD! They said, "**surely there are giants and walls, but they will be like grasshoppers in our sight for God is with us, LET US GO UP AT ONCE, AND POSSESS IT!**" (Numbers 13:30)

The 10 spies saw themselves and their ability, and their faith rested in their own power and not in God's ability and power. Joshua and Caleb had the GOD-KIND of Faith that rested in the "truthfulness (faithfulness of God). They had the faith found in Mark 11:22-23, "**And Jesus, answering, said to them, Have God's faith. Truly I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, Be taken up and be put into the sea; and has no doubt in his heart, but has faith that what he says will come about, he will have his desire.**"

This is the God-kind of faith He has given us. Mountain moving faith. The faith that spoke to a fig tree to wither and it did. The faith that caused Peter to say, "if that is you Lord, let me come to you" walking on the water. This is the faith God has given us. Beloved it is in you. The trials and the ordinary things of daily life are the places God wants you to use the faith He has given you.

The faith He has given you must grow, and it can only grow when you use it. When you speak what God speaks to your situation as you hear a word from Him, you are using that faith. When you step out in things beyond your ability you are using that faith. When you follow Him when common sense says your crazy, you are using the faith God has given you. When you obey Him and others laugh at you, then you are walking by faith and not by sight. That is when you will see the miracle working power of God on your behalf. God is looking to and from over the whole earth for those He can show himself strong to. Are you one of them He is looking for? Remember He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him. In the next chapter we will begin to see what a **"walk by faith really is."**

Chapter Three

Walking by Faith

Continuing our discussion of the God-Kind of faith, let us examine what active living faith looks like. In 1st Corinthians chapter one we see some ingredients needed for active faith.

1Co 1:25- 29, ***"Because what seems foolish in God is wiser than men; and what seems feeble in God is stronger than men. For you see God's design for you, my brothers, that he has not taken a great number of the wise after the flesh, not the strong, not the noble: But God made selection of the foolish things of this world so that he might put the wise to shame; and the feeble things that he might put to shame the strong; And the low things of the world, and the things without honor, did God make selection of, yes, even the things which are not, so that he might make as nothing the things which are: So that no flesh might have glory before God."***

A walk by faith and not by sight starts with ***"the foolish things in God"*** being wiser than man's wisdom. We are to **walk** by faith and not by sight. The word walk means: **to advance or travel on foot at a moderate speed or pace; proceed by steps; move by advancing the feet alternately so that there is always one foot on the ground in bipedal locomotion and two or more feet on the ground in quadruped locomotion.**

Walking requires motion or action. It requires us to advance, travel at a moderate speed. So, when you walk by faith you MUST ADVANCE, TRAVEL at a moderate speed or gain ground and reach your destination. Faith is a walk, movement, action that advances the Kingdom of God on earth. Most Christian's faith rests in believing "something." The bible tells us that even the demons believe there is a God and that does not save them. So, believing is not the key to walking by faith, action is. Faith is living and active and why is that so?

The bible tells us in Romans 10:17, ***"Faith come by hearing and hearing by the WORD OF GOD."*** Faith needs us to do something or to walk somewhere. That somewhere is to be with God to hear His voice, His word spoken to our Spirit. When we hear a "word from the Lord", a ***quicken***d word that is revealed in us and then communicated to us as a ***rhema word***, then Faith becomes active in us. In the Gospel of Mathew, Jesus overcomes the temptation from Satan to turn rocks into bread with a ***quicken***d, ***rhema word*** from the Father, ***"Man shall not live by bread alone but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God."*** (Mat. 4:4) So the ***WORD OF GOD quicken***d in your heart and communicated to your spirit (***rhema***) is spiritual food to live by. Beloved, what do you with food, sit and watch it or do you do something with it?

Yes beloved, you pick it up and you bite it, you chew it and you swallow it. This is an action, the first action of what walking by faith really is. Remember in Hebrews 11:1 Paul writes, ***"Now FAITH is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things unseen."*** Yes, it is a substance, and it **needs** the ***QUICKENED WORD OF GOD*** as food to become flesh within us and alive. The Word that said, ***"unless you eat my flesh and drink my blood, you will have no part of me."*** (John 6:53) The Word of God who

said, ***"I am the bread that came down from heaven."*** (John 6:50)

Every man and woman of God who had active faith received the **WORD OF THE LORD** as their food. This food gave them the ability to walk in the will of God. Our problem is that we **intellectually** understand the Word of God without experiencing the quickening power of the Holy Spirit that makes His word **"flesh"** or a **living reality** in our lives.

Many people never obtain their prophetic words because they don't use their faith, the faith of God in them. They try to "believe it" but because they don't see anything happening they give up. This is human faith rooted in the wisdom of men. The God kind of Faith is rooted in GOD, THE LIVING WORD. The God who SAID: Let there be light, and there WAS LIGHT!

The bible teaches us the following about the Word of GOD: ***"The word of God is living and full of power, and sharper than any two-edged sword, cutting and making a division between even the soul and the spirit, the bones and the muscles, and quick to see the thoughts and purposes of the heart."*** (Heb. 4:12)

To begin a walk-in faith you must understand how faith comes. It comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God. God has given you a measure of faith already. This God-kind of faith in you can HEAR HIS VOICE, it is His own voice! When you hear it with your spiritual ears of faith, that **WORD** you read in the Bible, or hear through prayer, or a prophetically spoken word than can be **QUICKENED** and made **ALIVE** in your heart. When that happens you now have the power to walk in it.

Luke 1:34 -37: ***"And Mary said unto the angel, how shall this be, seeing I know not a man? And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Spirit shall come upon thee, and the power of the Most High shall overshadow thee: wherefore also the holy thing which is begotten shall be called the Son of God. And behold, Elisabeth thy kinswoman, she also hath conceived a son in her old age; and this is the sixth month with her that was called barren. For no word from God shall be void off power."***

Mary answers the angel, ***"Be it on to me, EVEN AS YOU HAVE SPOKEN!"*** (Luke 1:38) This was her first step of walking by faith. Neither is any WORD OF GOD spoken to us by God VOID OF POWER when it is quickened in us by the Holy Spirit. Our spirit is where God placed His ability to walk by faith. He has given us a measure of faith when we were created, and that God-Kind of faith becomes alive when we are Born-Again.

Now we are able to truly eat the heavenly BREAD OF LIFE, Jesus Christ, the WORD OF GOD, and EVERY WORD THAT COMES FORTH FROM THE MOUTH OF GOD! As natural food give strength to the body to walk, THE QUICKENED WORD OF GOD SPOKEN IN US, becomes our POWER to WALK BY FAITH AND NOT BY SIGHT! This is LIVING, ACTIVE FAITH that comes by HEARING, AND HEARING BY THE WORD OF GOD! It is our baby steps in walking by faith and not by sight. We will continue in the next chapter to explore how we are to "walk by faith, and not by sight."

Chapter four

The foolishness of faith

Let us look at the **"foolishness"** of the faith of God. We started this teaching with the point that our "human" faith is not the same as the God-Kind of faith. Human faith is based on what the five senses tells you. Religious faith is "trying" to believe God rooted in human wisdom. This is why the Pharisee's could not know Jesus was the Messiah. Their faith rested in their wisdom, understanding and by what they saw. When Jesus healed on the Sabbath, what did they see? Did they see the goodness and love of God to set people free, or their man-made traditions? Let us read 1 Corinthians chapter 1:25-29 again:

1Co 1:25-29, "***Because what seems foolish in God is wiser than men; and what seems feeble in God is stronger than men. For you see God's design for you, my brothers, that he has not taken a great number of the wise after the flesh, not the strong, not the noble: But God made selection of the foolish things of this world so that he might put the wise to shame; and the feeble things that he might put to shame the strong; And the low things of the world, and the things without honor, did God make selection of, yes, even the things which are not, so that he might make as nothing the things which are: So that no flesh might have glory before God.***"

These verses tell us the nature of how the faith of God works, and how we can walk it out. One, the faith of God is foolish to men. Do you remember when they caught the woman in the act of adultery? (John 8:1-11) The law demanded that she be stoned to death. All the people had "faith" in the law, but they did not have the God-Kind of faith. The God-kind of faith that could see the "present" Word of God standing before them. The second point we brought forth is that walking in faith requires action and moving ahead. When someone walks somewhere, they leave where they were and go someplace new. The bible tells us in 2nd Corinthians 5:17, "**that if any man be in Christ, He is a new creation. Old things pass away, and all things become new.**"

If the people were walking in the faith of God, they would have seen one greater than the law was with them, Jesus Christ the fulfillment of the law. They could not see Jesus for who He really was "right now," the Messiah. Their faith rested in "their yesterday understanding" of the law. The bible teaches us, "***NOW FAITH IS,***" (Heb 11:1) not yesterday faith was! Jesus who was full of the faith of God did not operate in the yesterday. He sought the Lord for the "true present word from God." This did not contradict the law of Moses but to fulfill it. He came to bring the law to its end and inaugurate a new covenant with God's people. As Jesus sought the Father, He heard a **QUICKENED WORD** from HIM and He spoke it. "Those of you without sin, cast the first stone." (John 8:7)

The **quickenings** of the Word is what Jesus told us about the power of His words, John 6:63, "***It is the Spirit that quickens; the flesh profits nothing: the words that I have spoken unto you are spirit and are life.***" As mentioned in the last chapter the angel Gabriel said, "***no word from God comes without power.***" (Luke 1:37 amp.) This **quickenings** power of the Holy Spirit makes the **WORD** a living reality in your heart.

When you actually accept in your spirit what was spoken to you by God will happen, **it will!** Your next step is to **“walk by faith and not by sight”** and simply **obey** His words.

Then the very WORD that God spoke to you will actually take possession of and enable you **to do the impossible**. The Holy Spirit will bring into existence that which is not as though it was! In Romans chapter 8:11 Paul writes, **“the same Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead quickens are natural bodies.”** When the Word of God is alive and active in you it becomes food and fuel. When this is mixed with the measure of the Faith of God that is in you, you receive **“power from on High.”** (Luke 24:49)

When Jesus answered the crowd, **“those of you without sin.”** He spoke the life-giving Word of God as an answer to this woman’s faith. A miracle happens next, one by one they all dropped their stones and they leave her alone with Jesus. He is the only one that could have picked up a stone to condemn her, but He gave her mercy. This is what the whole law was to sum up, **“for all have sinned and fall short of the Glory of God.”** (Rom. 3:23) The law was to show us our need for mercy and forgiveness and our need for a savior.

Believe it or not, the woman caught in this wicked act used the God-kind of faith to obtain a miracle or the promise of God for forgiveness. She came to the only one who could save and forgive her, Jesus Christ. She knew the law demanded her to die, but the faith of God in her led her to Salvation himself! Praise God. This running to Jesus for mercy was true "walking in faith." Look at what she receives from Jesus, **“woman is there anyone here to condemn you?” She replies, “no!” “Then neither do I condemn you, but sin no more!”** (John 8:11)

This woman obtained something by using the faith of God in her. She received the substance of what she hoped for and could not see. She received the evidence of the thing she hoped for. She received forgiveness and mercy, a better covenant. To walk by faith requires true faith that **always sees it's true need.** True faith finds the only place where it can receive the answer to their need, God! Walking in faith always requires a Word from God that will be ***foolishness to your wisdom and understanding.***

It was **foolish** for her to think she could be forgiven for the act of adultery. The law demanded for her to be stoned to death, yet her **foolishness** received a miracle from God. The religious leaders left with their heads down looking **foolish** because of the unrepented sin in their own life. There are two choices to live a life of faith. You can **“look like a fool”** to the world as this woman caught in the act of adultery did by coming to Jesus and getting a miracle, or you can leave looking **“foolish”** to God by your own human wisdom. The choice is yours.

Our scripture verse teaches us that ***“not many wise, or many noble”*** are chosen. Why? They rest their faith in who they are and what they know, and not in God. Do you remember Naaman the leper in 2nd Kings 5:10. He sent servants to the prophet to come and pray that he might be healed. The prophet would not come but told him what he need to do. Go dip yourself 7 times in the Jordan river and you will be healed. This proud ruler would not do it and was angry to do such a thing because the Jordan was one of the dirtiest rivers in the land and it was **“beneath”** him. Finally, his servant asked him, **“if the prophet asked you to “some great thing” would you not have done it?”** (2nd Kings 5:13) Naaman listened to the word of his servant and he went and dipped himself in the Jordan River as Elisha the prophet instructed. Naaman finally obeyed and he was

miraculously healed.

Beloved, walking in the faith of God or walking by faith requires us to be like children who simply obey what God says instantly! He will always speak a word that does not make common sense to our mind. Why? Not many wise or noble are chosen. Their pride will keep them from using the faith God put in them. They refuse to see that “**faith**” requires someone bigger than them to do the work.

Is your own wisdom today blocking you from your miracle, healing or possessing what God promised? Are you afraid to let go of your understanding and just obey what God asked you to do? In order to walk by faith and not by sight you must shut out all the other voices that say obeying God is foolish. You must not try to reason the word of God out in your mind. Just simply obey His word and instructions.

Beloved, use the measure of faith God has given you and OBEY! Put away your wisdom, understanding and wait upon the Lord until He speaks a Word from His mouth to you. Then when you hear that **quicken**ed Word from God in your spirit obey it instantly. This is how you put one foot in front of the other and learn to walk by faith.

Chapter Five

The weakness of faith

In this chapter we will continue to learn how to "walk by faith." Let us read the highlighted verses of 1st Corinthians. 1Co 1:25- 29, "***Because what seems foolish in God is wiser than men; and what seems feeble in God is stronger than men. For you see God's design for you, my brothers, that he has not taken a great number of the wise after the flesh, not the strong, not the noble: But God made selection of the foolish things of this world so that he might put the wise to shame; and the feeble things that he might put to shame the strong; And the low things of the world, and the things without honor, did God make selection of, yes, even the things which are not, so that he might make as nothing the things which are: So that no flesh might have glory before God.***"

The king James version says, "***and the weak things of this world to confound the things that are mighty.***" The word weak means: not ***strong; liable to yield, break, or collapse under pressure or strain; fragile; frail.*** To understand what the walk of faith requires to God, we must understand the need for human weakness. Here is a truth on what most people think faith consists of. Their faith rest in their own power and strength, and in their own convictions to accomplish something for God. We would call this "***mental agreement.***" Much of what we call faith in the Body of Christ is the leaning upon our own goodness, strength and ability to get something accomplished with God's help! This is the mindset that starts out to do something for God and wants God to bless their efforts.

Human energy and exercise can accomplish great things and build great edifices. All we have to do is go to New York City and see what man can build as in skyscrapers and

tall buildings. In the church, we can build mega-ministries, reach thousands of people for Christ, yet in all these things we can do it without the faith of God. We can do all these things in the faith of our "own" ability to believe God is blessing our efforts.

What is the difference between intellectual faith that rests in our ability that God is with us to bless the works of our hands, and the true God-kind of faith? The answer is found in what 1 Corinthians 1:27 teaches us: "**and God chooses the feeble things, the things that are not strong, liable to yield or break to put to shame the strong.**"

A good example of this is God's selection of Gideon. In Judges 6:11-12 we read, "**And the angel of Jehovah came, and sat under the oak which was in Ophrah, that pertained unto Joash the Abiezrite: and his son Gideon was beating out wheat in the winepress, to hide it from the Midianites. And the angel of Jehovah appeared unto him, and said unto him, Jehovah is with thee, thou mighty man of valor.**" **Gideon was hiding** behind an oak tree threshing his wheat. He was hiding from the Midianites, yet God looked and found a man He could use. A man who was not strong outwardly, but able to yield to Him. A man not able to stand the strain of battle in his own strength but would have to rely on God who would be with him.

Look at Gideon's answer and understand the ingredients God needs for us to walk by faith. Judges 6:14-15. "**And Jehovah turned unto him and said, 'Go in this--thy power; and thou hast saved Israel out of the hand of Midian-- have not I sent thee.'**" **And he said unto him, 'O, my lord, wherewith do I save Israel? lo, my chief is weak in Manasseh, and I the least in the house of my father.'**" O beloved, listen to his testimony, "**O My Lord, YOUR SERVANT IS WEAK AND I THE LEAST IN MY HOUSE!**" See what God is looking for in us in order to walk by faith and not by sight.

There were many military men in the House of Israel much more qualified to lead Israel, but God didn't pick them. Why? Because they would rest in their own ability and power. Their faith would have been in their own resources. Often in our walk-in faith, **God requires us to become empty, weak and powerless** that our faith lay in His power and not our own.

If you remember the story of Moses, he was raised in all the ways of Egypt. (Ex. 2:11-17) He recognizes His call to deliver Israel from slavery, and he starts out in the STRENGTH OF WHAT HE KNOWS. He ends up killing two Egyptians in the power of his own strength. Yet God did choose him to be the deliverer of His people, but first God had to prepare him. He allowed Moses to be chased from Egypt to the desert to become a shepherd over sheep for 40 years.

For over 40 years, God had to reduce this man and his call until it was completely dead. **This death is what God calls weakness.** Moses became "not strong, liable to yield, break and collapse under the pressure in his own power." When God finally called to Moses from the burning bush, Moses gave a completely different reply than when He was in Egypt.

Let us look at this new encounter with God. Exodus 3:7-11 "**And God said, Truly, I have seen the grief of my people in Egypt, and their cry because of their cruel masters has come to my ears; for I have knowledge of their sorrows; And I have come down to take them out of the hands of the Egyptians, guiding them out of that land into a good land and wide, into a land flowing with milk and honey; into the place of the Canaanite and the Hittite and the Amorite and the Perizzite and the**

Hivite and the Jebusite. For now, truly, the cry of the children of Israel has come to me, and I have seen the cruel behavior of the Egyptians to them. Come, then, and I will send you to Pharaoh, so that you may take my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt. And Moses said to God, "Who am I to go to Pharaoh and take the children of Israel out of Egypt?"

Do you see the difference? Moses had to be made weak, so God could be strong. So many of us believers will not allow the Lord to do this work in our hearts. We can never truly walk with the faith of God as our power if we continue to fight against God emptying us.

Every day He brings us to places in our walk where we "can't" love, forgive, give something, say something or do something." We often get frustrated because we love trying to do things in our own power. Time after time however; we just keep failing! We get angry with God and quit or give up in learning His ways. We think our own strength is enough, and we should be able to do it "ourselves." Beloved, when it comes to God's word and direction for us we can **NEVER DO IT OURSELVES!** We must do **"all things through Christ who strengthens us!"** (Phil 4:13)

The Apostle Paul learned this when he cried out to the Lord 3 times to take the thorn out of his flesh but listen to the Lord's answer to him and understand why God chooses the weak to confound the strong. 2Cor. 12:9, **"And he hath said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my power is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest upon me."**

Beloved, when we walk by faith and not by sight, every step we take is in absolute weakness and inability. Faith requires trusting in God's ability and not your own. God's power is made **PERFECT IN WEAKNESS.** No more is this seen then in the process of the making of the Bride as shown in the Song of Solomon.

In the beginning of her walk to be a bride, she is full of her own sufficiency and strength. **"My beloved is mine, and I am His."** (SOS 2:16) She sees the Lord as someone to supply her needs as she goes about her own business. At the end of the book in chapter 8, a different picture is given to us of her life that has allowed the Lord to work in her heart. The process of brokenness and weakness is allowed to work in her life, and now she looks finally made ready to walk by faith with Him, her Bridegroom. Her new testimony is, **"I am my beloveds, and His desires are towards me."** (SOS 7:10)

The bible describes the bride in her end-time positional walk with the Lord like this, Son 8:5 says, **"Who is this that cometh up from the wilderness, Leaning upon her beloved? Under the apple-tree I awakened thee: There thy mother was in travail with thee, there was she in travail that brought thee forth."**

Beloved, this is the true definition of what "true faith" is. The **leaning of your entire personality** upon the Lord for His word, His life, His power and everything that He is. Only then are you ready to live a life of true faith. Hebrews 11:6 says, **"For He that comes to God must believe HE IS, and He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him."**

Our faith must never rest in the wisdom and power of man, but only in the strength and power of the Lord. What can the Word God speaks accomplish in a heart of those who walk by faith? It will take a shepherd and use him to deliver Israel from Egypt. It will use a little shepherd boy to slay a great giant. When God speaks a word to someone who is weak, they become enabled to do **“super-natural”** works by the power of God. Such a Word from God came to Gideon hiding under a oak tree, and it made him a mighty man of valor!

Beloved this is your God, and this is your destiny. The just shall live by faith! The God of the impossible is your God. Let him empty you of your own power, understanding, strength and wisdom to give you his grace that is sufficient for you to **walk by faith.** Pray right now and ask the Lord to remove all that is hindering you from living the true life of faith. Ask Him to fill you with the Spirit of Grace like He did with Apostle Paul. God's grace is His power, ability and might and is the only source that can cause you to walk by faith and not by sight. Remember faith is active and it walks where God walks. Walking by faith is: **a Bride coming forth from the wilderness leaning upon our Beloved.**

Chapter Six

Full of faith and full of the Holy Spirit

I pray that this teaching on “walking by faith” is a blessing to you. I feel it is very important to bring forth this revelation of faith at this time. We received a lot of teaching on faith in the 1980's and it was relevant for that day, but the Lord is taking us deeper into the life of faith than ever before. It is going to be critical for us in these last of days to be able to **“walk by faith and not by sight.”** We are going to see things in the future worse than 9/11.

The times we are in are called **“perilous times”** in 2nd Timothy chapter 3. Perilous meaning hard to deal with and hard to bear. How are we going to walk safely in times of terrorism and economic decline? How are we going to live when you can't understand why things are happening in nature like Katrina, earthquakes and a like? Should I fly today or go to an airport? Are there terrorists on these planes or in the airport? Can I go to NY City and be safe or go to a mall or the grocery store?

Children are being taken, people being killed in their own homes and worse is happening all around the world. Can we eat the food or play with toys made in China? There are so many questions and concerns that we have today as no other time in history. Fear is rampant in the world, and wars and rumors of war are all around us. What are we going to do?

It is to these questions that God wants to answer us. How are we going to survive in these perilous times? The faith teachings of the 80's on how to get stuff is not going to make it for us in these end-times. Faith is not about God meeting my needs. He has already promised to do that. **True Godly faith is the ability for God to speak to your spirit and impart His word to you. It is to give you the power, ability and**

understanding on how and where to walk each moment of your life.

Faith is the ability of God to lead you **“through the valley of the shadow of death.”** (Psalm 23:4) It is the power that will keep you safe in the **“Secret Place of the Most High God”** when all the terror comes by night as found in Psalm 91. Faith is the power to live Psalm 27:4. **“One thing I desire of the Lord, that will seek after, to dwell in his house all the days of my life, until my head is lifted up above my enemies.”**

This is the true faith we need to use in the days ahead. That is why the bible tells us that, **“we walk by faith and not by sight.”** (2nd Cor. 5:7) We are called to live by faith, **“the just shall live by faith.”** (Hab. 2:4) These teachings are for **“TODAY, the “NOW”** of God, so we can truly be men and woman of faith. The true God-Kind of faith is so important for us to be led by the Spirit of God. We can't be led by someone who we don't trust in the manner He wants us to trust Him.

The God-kind of faith exercised by a man and woman was one of the conditions set forth just to be a deacon in the church. Being full of faith was a requirement for Steven to be selected just to distribute food to the widows. If it was important enough of a requirement to distribute natural food, how much more is it to the true Spiritual food, Jesus Christ? In Acts chapter 6, let us read these requirements.

Act 6:1-5, **“Now in those days, when the number of the disciples was increasing, protests were made by the Greek Jews against the Hebrews, because their widows were not taken care of in the distribution of food every day. And the Apostles sent for all the disciples and said, It is not right for us to give up preaching the word of God in order to make distribution of food. Take then from among you seven men of good name, full of the Spirit of wisdom, to whom we may give control of this business. Then we will give all our time to prayer and the teaching of the word. And this saying was pleasing to all of them: and they made selection of Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip and Prochorus and Nicanor and Timon and Parmenas and Nicolas of Antioch, who had become a Jew:”**

Please notice that being full of the Spirit of Wisdom requires us to be **FULL OF FAITH!** This is the God-kind of faith fully in operation in our lives. This is why this teaching on faith is coming forth. We must be able to live the **“true life of faith.”** Not a faith that gets new cars, new houses, new ministries, but the FAITH that must guide and control us every day of our live. The faith that brings divine protection, direction and revelation into the heart and purposes of God.

What we call faith today is our ability to build something or do something for God. We need “faith” to do our ministry we are taught. This is not true, **Faith is our ministry** and it is a gift from God to **BE** Witnesses and Ambassadors of the Lord to every nation. Oswald Chambers writes, **“a child of God never has to ask to do the will of God,”** A child of God **IS THE WILL OF GOD!** Steven, a disciple of the Lord, chosen to be a deacon in the church is a prime example of a man's life lived in the **“faith of God”**. He was chosen for his nature, **full of faith and full of the Holy Spirit!**

Only a deep abiding relationship in and with the Holy Spirit can bring this about. Why is this kind of faith so important? Because the bible tells us in Galatians 5:6, that **FAITH WORKS BY LOVE!** The Holy Spirit comes to work this love deep in our hearts. Romans

chapter 8:5 says, **“the Holy Spirit sheds the love of God abroad in our heart!”** Every drop of that love is filled with **the “faith of God!”** That love has a voice in Math. 28:20, and Romans 8:39 **“Lo, I am with you, even to the end of this age, and nothing in all creation can separate us from the Love of God which is in Christ Jesus.”**

So, this “love” God himself, literally fills us with faith as He loves us, and as we open our hearts to this love. The faith of God that He created us with rises up and mixes with that love and we become **full of faith**. Jesus said in John 5:20, **“I do these things because the Father LOVES Me!”** It was His Father’s love that empowered Him to walk by faith and not by sight. Only walking and living in His love ourselves and really knowing it activates the “faith of God” in us to do great exploits in His name.

Steven was such a man chosen by God. Being full of faith and the Holy Spirit caused him not only to give out food, but able to be **“led by the Spirit of God”** to do even greater works! His active faith and life in the Holy Spirit caused him to see the great needs of the people. God used him to work great miracles, signs and wonders in the midst of the people. His faith was so alive in him when he was brought before the Jewish leaders, his countenance shined as if he were an angel. His faith was so alive as they stoned him to death that he was able to look up to heaven and see Jesus standing next to the throne of His Father. This was the fruit of a living faith filled with the love of God shed abroad in a man’s heart.

This faith did not get him a Escalade, or a new million dollar house. His faith made him become a martyr for Christ. His faith touched a man named Saul of Tarsus to prepare him to meet the Lord Himself. We are going to face things we never dreamed of, but we will overcome all of them by learning how to **walk by faith and not by sight.”** Faith is not given for us to get things to satisfy our flesh. **Faith is God’s life in us, filling us, sustaining us and guiding us in His path.**

We do not have to be afraid to travel or do something because of the terror all around us. We have the Spirit of the living God in us who will speak a sure word to us, give us direction, instruction and protect us as the Lord allows. So, we never have to be afraid of the terror by night, or the pestilence that comes by day.

Psalms 91:1 tells us **“that he who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall remain stable and fixed under the shadow of the Almighty.”** This psalm teaches us that faith works by love. When a believer sets **“his love”** upon the Lord, he is setting his **“complete faith”** in the Lord. Let us read what this type of faith worked by love will release to us from God.

Let us set our love upon Him in faith and complete trust in His ability. Then we will walk by faith and these promises will be our inheritance. We will possess them by the “faith of God” in us. As we allow His love to fill us with the words of Psalm 91, let them be the food to activate the “faith of God” in you.

“He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High Shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of Jehovah, He is my refuge and my fortress; My God, in whom I trust. For he will deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, And from the deadly pestilence. He will cover

thee with his pinions, And under his wings shalt thou take refuge: His truth is a shield and a buckler. Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night, Nor for the arrow that flieth by day; For the pestilence that walketh in darkness, Nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday. A thousand shall fall at thy side, And ten thousand at thy right hand; But it shall not come nigh thee. Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold, And see the reward of the wicked. For thou, O Jehovah, art my refuge! Thou hast made the Most High thy habitation; There shall no evil befall thee, Neither shall any plague come nigh thy tent. For he will give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. They shall bear thee up in their hands, Lest thou dash thy foot against a stone. Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: The young lion and the serpent shalt thou trample under foot. Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name. He shall call upon me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble: I will deliver him, and honor him. With long life will I satisfy him, and show him my salvation. “

Chapter Seven

The lowliness of faith

The last chapter taught us about being full of faith and the Holy Spirit. This chapters teaching is about the **"lowliness of faith!"** What does God require for us as believers to truly live a life of faith AS GOD UNDERSTANDS that to be. The scripture verse we have been studying is 1st Corinthians chapter 1:25-29.

1Co 1:25- 29, "Because what seems foolish in God is wiser than men; and what seems feeble in God is stronger than men. For you see God's design for you, my brothers, that he has not taken a great number of the wise after the flesh, not the strong, not the noble: But God made selection of the foolish things of this world so that he might put the wise to shame; and the feeble things that he might put to shame the strong; And the low things of the world, and the things without honor, did God make selection of, yes, even the things which are not, so that he might make as nothing the things which are: So that no flesh might have glory before God."

Every person has within them the ability to believe God. When a man is born-again

his spirit is now open to recognize and use this measure of faith God has given him because of the indwelling Holy Spirit. When this happens “the God-Kind” of faith is awakened in our spirit to see things spiritually. Our spirit which was dead to sin and could not discern anything of the Spirit of God is now awakened to receive all that the Holy Spirit came to give as our Teacher. (John chapters 14,16.)

We have learned that faith is a **substance** according to Hebrews 11:1 ***“It is the substance of things hoped for.”*** It is a **substance** and it is an **evidence** (proof) of the things that are NOT SEEN! The God Kind of faith is a real substance, greater than a pound of butter in your hand. No one would dispute that you have something in your hand if you were holding a pound of butter in it, and you said this is pound of butter. Anyone who would dispute that fact would be foolish and worse absurd, because you have a pound of butter in your hand.

When it comes to the “God-Kind of faith”, God says that faith is a real substance. Where is this substance if it is real? Faith is a substance of **“things”** hoped for! Now if you are hoping for a new car, a new house, a wife or anything you can see with your natural eye, then hope would be a **“desire”** to have those things. The faith teaching of the 1980’s and 90’s paid a lot of attention on the faith of this kind to obtain these things in life.

Many believers who were in need for God to prosper them saw this part of the Gospel as very appealing. Many today call it the **“prosperity”** gospel based in **“faith.”** This has produced a generation of believers who see God as someone who wants to meet their needs. He does want to provide our daily bread!

That being said, I need to distinguish this **“fresh”** teaching of faith you are reading from that which was taught in the past. Many needed to learn that God was really our **“provider.”** They learned if you would believe Him, He could provide things you never thought you could have. This was an important teaching for many caught in the grips of poverty **giving them hope for a better day.**

Many caught in the grips of discrimination and hopelessness began to get a fresh revelation of what God would provide for them if they had faith. I am grateful to the Lord for bringing forth this truth to lift many out of the bondage of poverty and despair. For many believers this **hope** to get out of poverty was a **“SUBSTANCE.”** This substance was **believing God could bring them out** of poverty and being enslaved to live on government welfare. This **“substance of things hoped for”** **believed** God **would** prosper them even as their soul prospered. Many precious saints **received exactly what they believed!**

As wonderful as this was to so many people, like so many times in the past, we take a truth of the nature of God and we elevate that truth to be God himself. By doing this, we began to **“only”** see God for what He could give, or what his hand can provide. Up to this present moment of this writing, many have stopped searching to seek His face and focus only on seeking His hand. Today faith or the faith of God is related to getting our needs met by God.

True faith does not rest in the ability to possess things, but the ability to be emptied of our own life for the life of Christ and His faith possessing you! Jesus taught us one of the major keys to walking a life of faith as He called us to empty

ourselves of all our concerns, plans and desires to do one thing, Math.11:28 Jesus says, ***"Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."***

Yes, beloved it is the **lowly** in heart that understand what the true **"faith of God"** really is meant to be in a soul. The lowly don't seek their own aim, ambitions, plans, or desires, they seek to do one thing, **"the will of Him who sent me."** Jesus told us in John chapter 17:18, ***"just as the Heavenly Father sent me into the world, so do I send you."*** He also taught us that a disciple must be like His master. If Jesus wore a yoke that was easy and light it was because He was **"lowly"** and meek, aren't we supposed to be like Him and wear the same yoke? It is this very issue James warns us of in his epistle. He shows us the danger in turning away from being meek and lowly to what a haughty prideful and selfish spirit produces in a believer's heart.

James 3:14, ***"What is the cause of wars and fighting among you? is it not in your desires which are at war in your bodies? You are burning with desire, and have not your desire, so you put men to death; you are full of envy, and you are not able to get your desire, so you are fighting and making war; you have not your desire, because you do not make request for it. You make your request, but you do not get it, because your request has been wrongly made, desiring the thing only so that you may make use of it for your pleasure. O you who are false to God, do you not see that the friends of this world are not God's friends? Every man desiring to be a friend of this world makes himself a hater of God."***

Unfortunately, many in the Body of Christ have thought faith was a **means to their own ends, and their own plans and desires**. They do not understand what God truly says a walk of faith really is. Our scripture verse lays down some important fundamentals about what this life of faith requires.

1 Cor.1 25-29. ***"AND GOD HAS CHOSEN THE LOW THINGS OF THE WORLD, AND THE THINGS WITHOUT HONOR."*** Beloved, the message of the **"faith of God"** was never to be about obtaining things or stuff from God alone, ***but obtaining the very life, nature, promises and character that God desires us to have.***

A measure of faith has been given to us by God to be able to walk out our entire life by faith and not by sight here on earth and forever. ***Faith is an ability from God to see beyond the natural life (sight) and its possessions, to see and obtain the spiritual life and all its possessions (true eyesight).*** The bible calls these possessions, treasure that moths and rust cannot ruin. ***Faith is a life in the Holy Spirit where God makes the substance and evidence of the Kingdom of God a living reality in our lives on earth as it is in heaven.***

God has chosen the **low** things of the world. The lowly things that the world has determined to be of little worth. ***It is in being lowly that we find the source of a real life of faith.*** So important is lowliness that Jesus calls us to come and learn of Him. To be lowly is to truly understand our place in Christ of why we were made. Jesus summed it up best in the Garden of Gethsemane when he cried out in Matt. 26:39, ***"Father, not my will, but your will be done."*** The giving up of our life, our rights and plans is what produces a life that is lowly. This heart attitude is critical for a true life of the faith of the Son of God. Paul wrote, ***"and the life I now live, I live by FAITH OF THE SON OF GOD!"*** (Gal. 2:20) *This is what a true meek and lowly heart will do in relationship to God*

in Christ.”

James warned us of the opposite type of heart in his epistle. He warns us of how **“the pride of life”** can tarnish this real God-Kind of faith in our lives. He warns us that people will begin to fight, and war with one another because of the lust **“for things”** are the true desires of their heart. The teaching of faith in the 1980’s was not wrong. However; without the right ingredients of God’s work in our heart, that very good word from God would be used to fulfill our lusts (the plans we have and desires of what we want) instead of the will of God.

He warned that our **“most inner hearts”** desires are not to be used on selfish ambition, desires or selfishness, but our hearts must beat only for the purposes of God. We must live only for HIM! Faith is not a **“substance”** to be used to fulfill our wants and desires, but it is the **“substance”** of things hoped for.

The bible says that Jesus Christ is that **HOPE**. He is the Hope of Glory itself! When He alone is your hope and your first and only desire, then you realize that your life **is not your own** but purchased with a price. You understand that **“you have been crucified with Christ, but nevertheless you live.”** You give up living for your own desires, but for the Lord’s desires alone. This beloved is what it means to be lowly and the place the “faith of God” becomes active and alive in your soul.

The word low means this: **ranked near the bottom of some scale or measurement. Indicating the bottom or furthest possible point down, lacking in strength, energy of vigor, feeble or weak.** God has chosen that which is ranked near the bottom on the scale on human ranking, that which seems the furthest away of ability and power. He has chosen that which is lacking in strength, energy, vigor and is feeble and weak to make RICH IN FAITH!

When you have allowed the Holy Spirit to refine you like gold and silver, you loose the value of your life as you have known it to be. You begin to see your value in Christ alone. You understand that you were made for His pleasure and purposes. When you surrender and give up the “right to your life” you become a fool to the world. Remember James warning, **“to be friend of this world, you take your stand as an enemy of God.”** Jesus taught us that **“if you keep your life (as you want it to be) you lose your spiritual life, and if you give up your life (as you want it to be) you gain your spiritual life.”** (Mth.16:25)

God resist the proud, but He gives grace to the humble. **Faith is the substance of things hoped for.** Only those who are **lowly** understand what they should truly hope for. Only the lowly made by God’s hand can understand and live in the substance of what faith truly is. The lowly in Christ have the **“evidence”** of the THINGS THAT ARE NOT SEEN!

When the bible speaks of Abraham, the father of faith, it says he was looking for something. This **“something”** was the result of true faith. His something was looking for a **“heavenly city!”** Not an earthly city or kingdom, but a city whose architect and builder was God. So, Abraham lived as a stranger and wonderer in this land, because his destination was a heavenly city. A city that could not be SEEN with a natural eye, but more real than any city he had ever been in. (Hebrews 11:8-10)

So real was this city, His whole life was consumed in the **UNSEEN**. This **unseen faith of God** was an evidence in the depth of His being that He was able to **“WALK BY FAITH”** every moment of His life. His life was consumed in BECOMING all God had promised him! He gave his life to **“walk by faith and not by sight.”**

Beloved this is what it means to be lowly. It has nothing to do with possessions, for Abraham was wealthy. He didn't seek the Lord for **“stuff”**, but for every word God spoke to Him. He wanted to please God by his obedience in obeying every command God gave him. This is what a life in the **“God-Kind of faith”** really looks like. It is the life of the **“lowly.”**

People thought Abraham was crazy, he left everything behind in the Ur of the Chaldees and went to a country he had never seen. He brought his own son to be killed as offering to God on the mountain. This man of faith learned what it meant to walk by faith and not by sight. Romans 4:18 tells us that he allowed God to bring him to the place **“where all his human reason for hope was gone, but against hope he believed in hope that he would become the father of many nations, even as God said.”** He is our example for us to follow because he is the Father of the faithful and through his seed, Jesus Christ, all nations will be blessed.

Let us walk on after him, yet even one greater than Abraham came. Jesus Christ who came as the son of man. This Son of God, and Son of man demonstrated to us the perfect obedience of a life that walked by faith and not by sight. He has given us that same life through the power of the Holy Spirit in us to **“walk by faith and not by sight.”** Will you allow the Spirit of God to make you meek and lowly in heart? If you will, you will find the true **“faith of God”** and you will be able to be as the scripture says, **“the just shall live by faith.”**

Chapter Eight

The faith that has no honor

Are you getting hungry for a life of faith? We are going to continue to look at the spiritual ingredients God needs to bring forth from our lives to truly, **“walk by faith and not by sight.”** In the last chapter we learned of the lowliness of faith, and now we will continue learning about the **“things without honor.”** Let us review our text scripture for this study.

1Co 1:25- 29, ***“Because what seems foolish in God is wiser than men; and what seems feeble in God is stronger than men. For you see God's design for you, my brothers, that he has not taken a great number of the wise after the flesh, not the strong, not the noble: But God made selection of the foolish things of this world so that he might put the wise to shame; and the feeble things that he might put to shame the strong; And the low things of the world, and the things without honor, did God make selection of, yes, even the things which are not, so that he might make as nothing the things which are: So that no flesh might have glory before God.”***

The word **“honor”** means: **high public esteem, fame, glory, high respect as in worth, merit or rank, the privilege of being associated with or receiving honor from respected person, group, or organization. It means having special rank or privilege or distinction amongst peers.**

We have learned that God has chosen, the foolish, the feeble, the weak, and the lowly as ingredients for us to **“walk by faith and not by sight.”** As we continue in this study, God has chosen people who to the world, and to many in the church itself, have no honor or apparent importance. He has chosen those who have **NO** public esteem, fame, glory or high respect as in worth, merit or rank. He chooses people who don't receive honor from **“respected people, organization or ministry associations.”** He chooses those who have no special rank, privilege or distinction amongst their peers.

Why does God look for these ingredients in a person? I believe it is this, **“that no flesh would glory in his sight.”** God chooses the weakest and neediest of people because when He works through them, everyone will know that it is God working in them. When the multitude looked upon Steven, they said his face shined like an angel.

King David was described to us as a “man after God's own heart.” When God chose him to be King over Israel, he was the LAST one brought before the prophet Samuel. David is an example of what means to be chosen by God because he was without honor amongst men.

In 1st Samuel chapter 16 1-15, Samuel is weeping over the failure of King Saul. The Lord calls him and tells him to get up and go to Jesse, the Bethlehemite and go anoint one of his sons as the new king of Israel. The Lord tells him these words in verse 1, **“I have chosen for myself a King from amongst his sons!”**

What we need to learn today is how God chooses **things that are without honor.** In verses 6-10 Jesse presents all his sons before Samuel to see who the Lord has chosen. He starts with the oldest one Eliab. Eliab was strong, handsome and well respected amongst his brothers. So outwardly strong that he was well honored by his father and even by Samuel. Listen to Samuel's words in verse 6, **“SURELEY THE LORD'S ANOINTED IS BEFORE HIM.”** Beloved, Eliab had every natural quality to be a leader and king of Israel. He was honored, respected and desired above his brothers, yet God does not choose him.

David was a man who was chosen to be the greatest King Israel ever had. His heart was so pure before God that God Himself promised to have one of his sons sit upon his throne forever. We know that Jesus himself as a man came through the lineage of David. Yet, David's selection by God confounds human wisdom and understanding. He was small, ruddy, red hair, pretty, handsome to look at but not Kingly. He looked more like a **“surfer boy,”** then a **“weight lifter.”** He had no **“natural”** qualities that would even suggest he could be a king. Eliab had all those qualities as a man and would make a better selection for a King than David by human standards.

God is not a man, nor does He see as a man sees. Listen to the rebuke the Lord speaks to the great prophet Samuel concerning his discernment on selecting a king. Verse 7, **“and the Lord said to Samuel, Do not look upon his face or his contenance, or how tall he is, for I have rejected him, For the Lord sees not as a man sees, for man looks on the outer appearance, but the Lord looks upon the**

heart!”

One by one each son was brought before the prophet and none met God’s standard. What standard was the Lord looking for? Each one of the older sons had a quality that could have surely made a good king from a human stand point. I want you to consider something, Jesse knows the prophet has come to choose a king and he brings all his sons before him EXCEPT David! Do you remember what the word honor means: **high public esteem, fame, glory, high respect as in worth, merit or rank, the privilege of being associated with or receiving honor from respected person, group, or organization. It means having special rank or privilege or distinction amongst peers.**

Jesse gave this honor to the first seven sons by presenting them to Samuel. In verse 10 we read, ***“and Jesse had seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, THE LORD HAS NOT CHOSEN THESE!”*** So much for human wisdom and selection! The Lord has not chosen these. So, who would God choose?

1st Corinthians chapter 1 tell us that: ***“But God has chosen the foolish things of this world so that he might put the wise to shame; and the feeble things that he might put to shame the strong; And the low things of the world, and the things without honor, did God make selection of, yes, even the things which are not, so that he might make as nothing the things which are: “So that no flesh might have glory before God.”***

The Lord was about to choose the exact opposite of what men would choose as ingredients to be king. If there was a man who knew how to ***“walk by faith, and not by sight”*** it would be David. He was the man that killed the lion and the bear and would have faith to kill Goliath. He was the man that would continually defeat the Philistines. He was the man that would establish Jerusalem as Israel’s home. This man would be both priest and king before God by establishing a tabernacle to meet the Lord called the Tabernacle of David. Here we find a man not ashamed to dance naked before the Lord. A man who continually would seek God’s face in every battle to get his direction.

God found a man full of mercy, compassion and love like no other before or after him. The Lord found for himself a king! The life of David shows us a man who was quite flawed in many ways, but a man after the very heart of God Himself. The psalms and songs he wrote are a testimony of someone who is foolish in men’s eyes, but beloved in God’s eyes. Israel grew to love and honor David as their king, not for his power, stature or might but for His deep relationship with the Lord who was with him always.

In the movie “One night with the King “, Esther, another person chosen by God who had no honor before men, had to make a decision to go before the King uninvited. This act would mean her death if the King did not extend His scepter to acknowledge her. As she stood before the eunuch who trained her to be a queen, she says to him these words as he begs her not to go. She smiles at the eunuch and says, ***“I will go before the King as David did before Goliath. Do you know what I love about this story? It is that David did not win the battle over Goliath because he fought well, but because HE BELIEVED WELL!”***

Beloved, this man of no honor with men won his victories not because he fought well,

but that **HE BELIEVED WELL!** This is what it means to **“walk by faith, and not by sight.”** David wasn't chosen because of the honor of men, but David had the “honor of God” who called him, “a man after my own heart.” This is what a real life of faith requires.

It is not the nobility of David that made him a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, but the lack of it in the sight of men. This lack of honor from man made him a prime candidate for the honor of God. David loved what God loved. He loved God intimately because he found the love he needed in God Himself. David was despised and rejected by his own brethren and Father, yet he was a man of great faith. Remember, Faith works by love.

Let us close this chapter with the verses from 1st Samuel concerning David's selection as King. As we do, let us pray that this quality of the Spirit of not having or needing the honor of man be our motivation for seeking the Lord. May God continue to work in us these qualities, so we can truly be as the **“just who shall live by faith.”** Holy Spirit teach us how to forever live in our emptiness to receive your fullness, so we can **“walk by faith and not by sight,”** as David did.

1 Samuel 16:11-13, “And Samuel said unto Jesse, Are here all thy children? And he said, there remains yet the youngest, and, behold, he is keeping the sheep. And Samuel said unto Jesse, Send and fetch him; for we will not sit down till he come hither. And he sent, and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and withal of a beautiful countenance, and goodly to look upon. And the Lord said, Arise, anoint him; for this is he. Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the Spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward.”

Chapter Nine

Faith the substance of things that "are not"

Our study of the “God-Kind” of faith continues in 1st Corinthians chapter 1. Let us read the following scripture text:

1Co 1:25- 29, “Because what seems foolish in God is wiser than men; and what seems feeble in God is stronger than men. For you see God's design for you, my brothers, that he has not taken a great number of the wise after the flesh, not the strong, not the noble: But God made selection of the foolish things of this world so that he might put the wise to shame; and the feeble things that he might put to shame the strong; And the low things of the world, and the things without honor, did God make selection of, yes, even the things which are not, so that he might make as nothing the things which are: So that no flesh might have glory before God.”

We have studied in the last few chapters the **“ingredients”** necessary for the God-Kind of faith to become active and live in us. This book has set forth the needed

CONDITION of a person's heart who God has chosen to live a life of true faith, and **“to walk by faith and not by sight.”** The life of faith is not an easy one to live. That is why not many wise, noble, intellectual people can walk it. Faith works against what we would call **“common sense.”** Do not misunderstand me, we need common sense for many things. We need it to walk across the street and not get hit by a car. We need it to go to sleep, eat, drink, brush our teeth and more.

When it comes to a real life of faith, common sense can become the greatest of enemies. It is foolish to many people that Jesus Christ was born of a virgin birth. Many don't believe it happened. How can a virgin get pregnant? Today there is such a focus on Jesus being married and having a family, so they deny His sinless life. Beloved, not many wise people can believe He is the Son of God. Common sense says, He could not have lived a sinless life no one has. Common sense says He was just a man, a prophet, a good person with a new philosophy. This is why the Gospel is foolishness to the wise men and woman of the world. Common sense may believe that He died on the cross, but it cannot believe that the Father raised Him from the dead. As you can see, common sense can be the enemy of true and living faith.

Why does the Lord have to choose **“even the things which are not?”** This is a fundamental question we are going to try to answer in this chapter. The bible tells us in Proverbs 14:12, **“there is a way that seems right to a man, but it ends in the way of death or destruction.”** **THERE IS A WAY THAT SEEMS RIGHT!** This is the secret to the verse we are expounding. The way of a man in his own wisdom and thinking always seems the right choice. Every decision we make as a person is the decision we always **“think”** is right.

Before I came to know Jesus Christ as my Lord and savior, I had plans for my life, goals, and all that I wanted to achieve. They were good plans. I knew where I wanted to be in 20 years, what I wanted to have, and how I was going to plan for my wife and my future. I planned how I would pay for my children's education. I had great and lofty plans. As I went about achieving these plans and goals, nothing was going to get in my way. You could say I was **“wise”** in my own sight. I was **“noble”** because I had my own success. When people came to preach the Gospel to me, I hated them. I despised them. Though I was religious and went to church, I didn't need a savior. I liked my life the way it was.

I use this illustration to bring forth a needed point of discussion. This thinking and reasoning is the way that seems “right” to everyone in the world and even some Christians. Shouldn't we plan for our future and have something for a rainy day? These goals and plans were **“my ways.”** The ways in which I was going to walk and bring my family. This reasoning was apart from the Holy Spirit guidance, and the bible calls this the **“life in the flesh.”**

Romans chapter 8:1 tells us that, **“*There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus who*”** **WALK NOT AFTER THE FLESH, BUT AFTER THE HOLY SPIRIT!** The amplified bible expounds this verse this way, **“*who walk not after the dictates and ways of the flesh, but after the dictates and ways of the Spirit.*”** Verse 6 says, **“*the mind of the flesh, (which is your sense and reason apart from the Holy Spirit) is DEATH, But the mind of the Holy Spirit (which is your sense and reason with the Holy Spirit) is LIFE AND PEACE!*”**

Faith requires the work and direction of the Holy Spirit. It requires the ability to hear God's voice and the understanding of what He is speaking to our heart. His voice is to give us our plans, direction, power and ability to live and do the will of God. Active faith can never work apart from the ability to hear God's voice personally through the bible, and the personal speaking He does in a human heart.

When we are void of the Holy Spirit and dead in our sins, we can **NEVER** hear God or know His will and plans for our lives. We only have our **"human thoughts"** to live by and guide us, and the impulses of our flesh to gain as much as we can for ourselves. We might be good people and even help others, yet we are still guided by our **"own understanding in wisdom."**

Romans 8:7, says ***"but the mind of the flesh (sense and reason apart from God) is at war, enmity against God. For to the law of God it CAN NOT submit itself."*** Beloved, there is not one ounce of the ***"God-Kind"*** of faith in this kind of thinking. This type of thinking is opposed to God because it is based in common sense or human reason. Even though God has given to every man a ***"measure of faith,"*** this faith is dormant in a man until he is born-again by the Holy Spirit of God. Only then can that God-kind of faith in him become active to walk by.

The mind of the flesh, common sense, is at war with God, why? The bible answers that question in the following verses. Let us read and receive the impartation of these words: Isaiah 55:8-9 ***"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, or your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."***

God says, **"OUR THOUGHTS ARE NOT, HIS THOUGHTS! OUR WAYS ARE NOT HIS WAYS!"** Beloved, this is the life of faithlessness. There is no exercising of faith in your own thoughts, plans and direction. God tells us this is foolishness. He tells us in His word that the end of these ways leads to death and destruction. I know I was on that path. All my great plans and success led me to want to commit suicide, and I almost did! My end would have been destruction because I rested my whole life, my family on the ***"wisdom of man" and not the "wisdom of God."*** I was wise in my own eyes, and noble in my own heart, so I was disqualified from a life of faith.

The tragedy is even worse if we become a Christian and continue to live ***"according to the flesh."*** **It is the highest insult to God that as believers we would live our lives as if we owned them still.** It is an insult to God who saved us if we don't consult Him, listen to His voice and find His will for our lives. Yet so many Christians still live like that. They will get into heaven for trusting Jesus to save them and repenting from their sins, but the **"LIFE OF THE FAITH OF GOD"**, they will never know.

God's thoughts are ***"above"*** ours thought, and His ways are ***"above"*** our ways! The human mind cannot receive the things of God without God "revealing" them to our spirit. Jesus asked His disciples who do man say that I am in Mathew 16:15-18? Peter answered, ***"you are the Christ, the Son of the living God."*** Jesus said, ***"Blessed are you Simon Bar Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven as revealed this to you, and I say thou art Peter, and upon this ROCK I will build my church."*** Beloved, God 's thoughts are ***"ABOVE OURS!"*** These ***"thoughts"*** are His ***"ways"*** concerning our lives. You can't see, feel or touch them, but they are as real as the air you are breathing. ***God's thoughts and ways*** to ordinary

unsaved men are the **“things which are not!”** The unsaved man cannot perceive them, so to him they are foolish as if **“they don’t exist!”** The **ways** and **thoughts** of God are what **He has chosen** for our lives, and they are only seen and understood by **revelation from the Holy Spirit** to a man’s heart.

We have read in 1st Corinthians that **“did God make selection of, yes, even the things which are not,”** Yes, the selection from God are **HIS WAYS, HIS THOUGHTS AND HIS PLANS FOR OUR LIVES!** These thoughts and plans are the **“mind of the Holy Spirit.”** and they are **“above us”** where God exists! **These thoughts are the purposes, directions and plans that God has created for us.** Each thought God has for us is full of the active faith of God Himself if we open our hearts to hear His voice. The words that God speaks are full of the life of faith if we allow Him to quicken them in our spirit until they become revelation knowledge of His will for our lives.

Yes, beloved this is how we can **“walk by faith.”** A living faith that God has prepared in a heart humble and broken enough that will receive His words. A heart willing to trust God to do every word that He speaks. Beloved the **“things which are not,”** the things we cannot see with the natural eye or hear with the natural ear of the Kingdom of God are more real than the world around us. These invisible things of God’s Kingdom are to become a living reality in us as He writes the revelation of them on our hearts. This is the revelation of Jesus Christ that is coming forth in His people to walk by **“faith and not by sight”** in these last days.

We are citizens of **“another world and another kingdom.”** We live in the **“faith of the Son of God who loves us and gave himself for us!”** Like Abraham the Father of the faithful, we begin to look past this **world we can see**, to a **“city”** whose maker and builder is God! Abraham’s destination was a **“heavenly city.”** (Heb.11:8-19) The bible called him a **“stranger and alien to this world.”** (Heb.11:13) though he was still in the world. This must be our destination as well as Gods’ people of faith.

Abraham received the mind of God. He had the **revelation and direction** of the thoughts of God concerning his life. He received them in his heart and followed the Lord at His word. When they became too old to produce a child, God gave them power to conceive one. Abraham and Sarah received a promise from God to have a child from their own loins, not born after the flesh (the power of man), but after the very promise that God had given them. **Isaac was the proof of their faith in God’s power!**

Romans 4:19-22 says, **“And without being weakened in faith he considered his own body now as good as dead (he being about a hundred years old), and the deadness of Sarah’s womb; yet, looking unto the promise of God, he wavered not through unbelief, but waxed strong through faith, giving glory to God, and being fully assured that what he had promised He was able also to perform. Wherefore also it was reckoned unto him for righteousness.”**

We as His children must abide in continual fellowship with Him through the Holy Spirit to receive His thoughts and plans for our lives. Proverbs 3:5-6 are to be a guide to all of us. May this be your heartfelt cry to the Lord today, Lord allow me to, **“Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will direct your path.”**

Chapter Ten

Faith that brings to nothing the things that are

I pray that this teaching on faith has opened your heart to desire the ingredients that make the God-Kind of faith become alive in your life. That you would be God's **"true people of faith"** along with Abraham, Joshua and Caleb who entered the rest of what faith really is. As we continue to teach on the reality of what a living faith is in a believer's life, we must continue to understand the essential ingredients required for it to live. Our text scripture for this study on faith is:

1Co 1:25- 29, "***Because what seems foolish in God is wiser than men; and what seems feeble in God is stronger than men. For you see God's design for you, my brothers, that he has not taken a great number of the wise after the flesh, not the strong, not the noble: But God made selection of the foolish things of this world so that he might put the wise to shame; and the feeble things that he might put to shame the strong; And the low things of the world, and the things without honor, did God make selection of, yes, even the things which are not, so that he might make as nothing the things which are: So that no flesh might have glory before God.***"

"We have learned what God does **"not"** use as ingredients for an active faith. Here is what they are. He does not use the wisdom or strength of men. Not many who are wise after their own wisdom are chosen. He does not choose those who are strong in their own sufficiency. He does not choose those who are noble or well regarded by the standards of men. That is quite a list of disqualifications to be chosen to live an active life of faith.

What has God chosen as His ingredients? "1st Corinthians 1:25-29 says, **God has chosen** the **foolish things** of the world to put to the wise to shame. **He has chosen** the **feeble things** to put to shame the strong. **God has chosen** the **low things** of the world, **the things without honor**, did God make selection of, yes, **even the things that are not**, so that he might make as nothing the things which are:

God is not a man and His ways are not our ways. His thoughts are not our thoughts. However; this has not crossed the ordinary mind of unsaved men. Unsaved men and women think they are as smart or smarter than God. How can I say that? I can say it by experience. I thought I was able to choose my own path, direction for my life and family, and completely satisfy and fill myself and others by what I did. How about you? Have you ever thought like that?

How many plans do we make for our life? We plan how we are going to spend our time, money and energy every day. We take **"control"** over our lives every day. The world says if we are **"really"** good we will leave the world a better place than we found it when we were born. For those in the world and are not born-again, life is no more than accumulating as much as you can as long as you help people along the way. If you are a nice person, don't hurt or say anything bad about anyone and you will be ok for eternity.

This worldly mindset usually consists of making it **"through another day."** If you are rich, you worry about how you are going to spend your money. If you are poor, you worry

about how you are going to get your money. If you are middle class, you worry about how to make more money and who is going to take it from you. Mankind without the Holy Spirit rests in a wisdom that is **“foolish”** to God. So God has to show mankind what their own wisdom really is, **“to make as nothing the things that are .”** This is a key to understanding the realm of faith. **Human wisdom** is at war with the **God-kind of faith**.

Human wisdom is the ***mind of the flesh*** as we wrote about in the last chapter, and it is at enmity with God according to Romans chapter 8:7. The God-kind of faith rest in the **“wisdom of God”** or the **“mind of the Holy Spirit.”** It is in the mind of God that faith must become alive in a believer’s heart. That is why Jesus had to be born, die and be raised from the dead. He came to reconcile us back to God through the sacrifice of His own life and blood for our sins. He also came to send the **“PROMISE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT”** to those who would accept His sacrifice. The Holy Spirit had to be sent to live in a man’s heart to activate the measure of faith the Father has given.

This is where many believers miss it. They don’t believe in the Baptism of the Holy Spirit as the finishing and enabling work of redemption. However; it was for this reason Jesus said, **“it is expedient that I go away, for if I not go away, the Comforter (Holy Spirit) will not come to you, but if I go, He will come to you.”** (John 16:7) God in His wisdom knew that for us to walk by **“faith and not by sight,”** it was going to take His Own Spirit to come live and dwell in our hearts. He knew to activate the faith He has given to every man, mankind would need to **born-again** and **“filled with the power from on high.”** Luke 24:49, **“And behold, I send forth the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city, until ye be clothed with power from on high.”**

This is the same Holy Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead according to Romans chapter 8:11. This is the same Holy Spirit Jesus called our **“Comforter, Teacher”** in John chapter 14:16-17 and chapter 16:12-15. In these passages of scripture Jesus tells us of the real work of the Holy Spirit and why **“true and living faith” only comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.** John 14:16-17, **“And I will pray to the Father and He will give you another Comforter, to be with you forever. Verse17, even the Spirit of TRUE KNOWLEDGE (TRUTH).”**

John 16:12-15, **“I have still much to say to you, but you are not strong enough for it now. However, when he, the Spirit of true knowledge, has come, he will be your guide into all true knowledge: for his words will not come from himself, but whatever has come to his hearing, that he will say: and he will make clear to you the things to come. He will give me glory, because he will take of what is mine, and MAKE IT CLEAR TO YOU!”** **Everything which the Father has is mine: that is why I say, He will take of what is mine and will make it clear to you.”**

Jesus teaches us that the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of **“TRUE KNOWLEDGE!”** He will guide us into **ALL TRUE KNOWLEDGE!** Do you understand what that truly means? That all of man’s reasoning is **FOOLISHNESS TO GOD!** To the people who are not born again and filled with the Holy Spirit, the **WISDOM OF GOD** seems like foolishness to them. God’s wisdom is foolish to the natural unsaved man because God’s ways are not practical. This is the whole point of the Bible! It is written not to be a book on how to do religious things, but to bring forth the revelation of what the true **“Faith of God”** is. Psalm 34:22, **“no one who has faith in the Lord shall ever be put to shame.”**

The Lord must teach us His ways concerning the walk of faith. He allows us to walk

into situations that seem impossible to fix until we will **“look up “and find Him.** It is foolish to God for us to try **“controlling”** every event in our lives as if we were god. We usually just make bigger messes. The Lord must **lead us out** of this human reasoning. The impossible situations in our lives God uses to take us out of the practical human reasoning that destroys the life of faith.

In the book of Exodus, God brought 3,000,000 people out of slavery and lead them into a desert where there was no water or food. He led them to the banks of the Red Sea to be surrounded by Pharaoh’s army ready to take them back to Egypt. It seemed the Lord lacked wisdom on delivering a nation to allow such difficult circumstances for them to overcome. The Israelites had no natural way out of this situation.

The only conclusion their **human reason** could bring was that, **“God brought them out to the desert to die.”** They did not understand that God’s wisdom was to part the sea in two and allow them to walk on dry ground in the midst of the sea, and that very sea would be a grave to their enemies.

That miracle should have been enough for the Israelites to have faith in God forever. It did not! A few days later when all their food ran out they complained again and said, **“we were better off back in Egypt as slaves at least there were cucumbers to eat.”** God answered their cry and gave them **“manna from heaven to eat,”** yet that was enough to build their faith. A few days later, they ran out of water in the dessert. Again, they murmured that **“God brought us out here to die, we were better off in Egypt.”** God answered and brought **“water forth from a rock!”**

Their **“human wisdom”** caused them to **DENY GOD** who had done so many miracles for them all along the way. They actually believed it was **“better”** to go back to Egypt and be slaves. Hebrews chapter 3 tells us that God was angry with this generation and swore in His wrath, **“they shall never enter my rest.”** The rest of God is completely trusting Him with your life knowing you are forever in His hands! Listen to the rebuke the author of Hebrews writes about these people:

Heb 3:7-12, **“And so, as the Holy Spirit says, Today if you let his voice come to your ears, Be not hard of heart, as when you made me angry, on the day of testing in the waste land, When your fathers put me to the test, and saw my works for forty years. So that I was angry with this generation, and I said, their hearts are in error at all times, and they have no knowledge of my ways; And being angry I made an oath, saying, they may not come into my rest. My brothers, take care that there is not by chance in any one of you an evil heart filled with unbelief, turning away from the living God!”**

The King James bible describes the Israelites in Hebrews 3:12 as having an **“evil heart of unbelief.”** This heart was the **“mind of the flesh or human wisdom.”** Their lack of faith caused them to **DIE IN THE WILDERNESS!** They did not allow God to activate the faith He gave them by trusting in the **God that was bigger than them!** That is why Jesus said, I must send **SOMEONE BIGGER** than you to live in you and be your **HELPER!** The Holy Spirit is defined in the Greek as the **Helper, Stand-by, and Comforter.** **He is the SPIRIT OF TRUE KNOWLEDGE! He is the Third Person of the Holy Trinity!**

God has allowed man’s wisdom to come to nothing. He does this to cause us to look beyond ourselves to acknowledge that He is God, the Creator of the universe. 1st

Corinthians 1:25-29 tell us, **“SO THAT HE MIGHT MAKE AS NOTHING THE THINGS THAT ARE!”** **“The things that are”** is **man’s reasoning** founded in his own intelligence. This is the reasoning that believes man can do everything on their own. This thinking makes man his own god, and God must bring this **reasoning to nothing!**

God **proved** that this kind of thinking was **nothing** as He led the Israelite’s out of Egypt. The Israelites were going to learn that their **human wisdom** would never trust God. They would only trust **WHAT THEY SAW WITH THEIR EYES!** Their **human wisdom** actually blamed God that they would die in the wilderness. They **believed** God **deliberately** led them there to die! This is **HIGH TREASON AGAINST GOD,** have we as **CHRISTIANS** done the same thing to God? Has not God given us the miracle of salvation, healing, provision and so much more to build our faith?

We read in Exodus how His mighty hand opened up the sea for his people to walk on dry ground. He brought forth water from the rock and provided bread from heaven called manna. They should have believed Him for their entire life. **“Human reason”** deceived them into believing **a lie** about God.

There are more miracles written in the history of the Bible that teach us how God’s wisdom supersedes all of man’s wisdom. He allowed Elijah to call down fire from heaven to prove He was God and not Baal. He stopped the sun from setting for Joshua to defeat the enemy of Israel. He brought the great walls of Jericho down with the shouts of God’s people. Does He not bring man’s wisdom to nothing?

These miracles are foolish to a man without God. People believe these events are stories, myths or superstition. Sadly, many in the Body of Christ believe God is powerless today to help them. I have heard Christians say, **“God only helps those who help themselves.”** Many Christians don’t believe God can still perform miracles are for today. They believe God lost all His power when the disciples died.

Some take this belief to the extreme and believe the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, the gifts of the Holy Spirit died with the Apostles. There is not **ONE** scripture that says this to be true! The Bible tells us that **“Jesus Christ is the same, yesterday, today and forever.”** (Heb.13:8) Why would God stop sending the Baptism of the Spirit after the death of the disciples? Did he want us to rely on human wisdom and power to serve Him and make disciples of the nations?

Does it make sense that God would want every other generation to walk without the power and mind of the Holy Spirit when He came to send His Very Spirit to us in power? Why did the disciples have to tarry in Jerusalem until they were clothed with power from on high, if it was not important? Many in the Body of Christ believe that there is no Baptism of the Holy Spirit for us today. This **“human wisdom”** seems logical even reasonable to their understanding. Many even try to twist the scriptures to accommodate their reasoning.

Nowhere did Jesus ever teach the Baptism of the Holy Spirit would end with the disciples. Quite the opposite is true. On the day of Pentecost Peter preached to the crowd and said these words, Act 2:39, **“For to you is the promise, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call unto him!”**

The **“real”** baptism of the Holy Spirit brought them **“dunamis”** power to preach the

Gospel, but more it transfigured their lives by activating the **"God-Kind of faith"** within them. Before Pentecost they were hiding and afraid for their lives. After the Baptism of the Holy Spirit they were boldly proclaiming the Gospel and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. They now had a **"new way"** of thinking.

They did not have to hide anymore but could declare the Gospel boldly with signs and wonders following. This sounds like a **"new mind of faith"** to me, the **"mind of the Holy Spirit!"** Once again God would demonstrate that the **foolishness of God** is wiser than all human wisdom could ever hope to be. He would use the foolishness of the day of Pentecost to confound the wisdom of this world. To those who saw this outpouring and heard it fall upon the 120, it appeared that these 120 were drunk with wine. Peter announced to them the **"foolishness of God to bring to nothing the wisdom of men."**

Listen to Peter's word about the wisdom of God from Acts 2:14-17. **"But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and spake forth unto them, saying, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and give ear unto my words. For these are not drunken, as ye suppose; seeing it is but the third hour of the day; but this is that which hath been spoken through the prophet Joel: And it shall be in the last days, saith God, I will Pour forth of My Spirit upon all flesh."** God truly brings to nothing the things "that are!"

Chapter Eleven

No flesh shall glory in His sight

As you read this chapter, my prayer is that God has birthed a new understanding of what the God-Kind of faith is and the ingredients necessary to activate that faith in your life. The bible tells us that the **"just shall live by faith,"** (Hab. 2:4) and that **"we walk by faith and not by sight."** (2nd Cor. 5:7) Faith is essential to the full abundant life Jesus came to give us. Remember beloved, **"that without faith it is impossible to please God!"** (Heb. 11:6)

As we understand this teaching of the God-Kind of faith, we must remember that God has given to **"every man"** a measure of faith, or none of us could be saved. The bible tells us that we are **"saved by grace through FAITH", it is NOT OF OURSELVES, but a GIFT FROM GOD!"** (Eph. 2:8) We have learned that God has not given us the gift of faith just to obtain "stuff," but to walk in the invisible realm of the Kingdom of God. He has given us faith to see, hear and apprehend the **"things which are not,"** He has given us faith to believe His word above everything else we see in the natural. Faith gives us the ability to receive on earth that which is heaven.

Faith is the only way we can walk by! Faith is walking continually with God in His presence. The presence of the Lord was so important to Moses that in Exodus chapter 33:14 Moses says, "**unless your presence goes with me, do not take us up from here.**" True and living faith requires us to hear God's voice speaking His words to our spirit, and for that word to become our daily bread to live and walk by. "***Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.***" (Rom. 10:17)

Jesus said that His words are ***SPIRIT and LIFE!*** Every word that God speaks to our heart must have its roots in an ***intimate relationship*** with Him. His presence will speak directly to us through the Holy Spirit who reveals what He hears from the Father and the Son to our heart. (John 16:13-14) **It is this dependence upon God revealing or manifesting Himself, His will, and His words in us that enables us to "walk by faith and not by sight".** He does this as we meditate in His word, spend time in prayer, by having a devotional life, and more. His desire is to fellowship with us 24/7, 365 days a year if we will dare believe Him.

Enoch was such a man and his testimony of faith is that **"he walked in continuous fellowship with God for 365 years. He was, and then He was not, because God took him."** (Gen 5:22-23) This man of God loved God so much that every moment of his life he was in fellowship with God. **BELOVED THIS IS the God-Kind of FAITH! THIS IS WHAT IS MEANS TO WALK BY FAITH AND NOT BY SIGHT!** Only intimacy with God releases and activates **the Faith of God** in us and allows us to do the very works Jesus said we can do, even the greater works. 365 years is allegorical for a lifetime. God loved this man so much, He took him straight into heaven without tasting death! This is what a true walk of faith is: **a lifetime of intimacy and relationship with God.** This relationship allows you to hear his voice continually in which you can walk in His ways and not your own.

Oh, what a better life God has in store for us as believers than just going to church twice a week and doing some sort of ministry. Through a walk of faith, we "**become**" a ministry instead of doing one! The work that we accomplish is the Lord working in and through us. Our personal work is to stay in continual fellowship with Him to hear his voice and obey. Remember Jesus said, **"Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God."** (Mat. 4:4) In our text verse we understand the reason why a life of true faith is needed.

Let us read our text scripture:

1Co 1:25- 29, "***Because what seems foolish in God is wiser than men; and what seems feeble in God is stronger than men. For you see God's design for you, my brothers, that he has not taken a great number of the wise after the flesh, not the strong, not the noble: But God made selection of the foolish things of this world so that he might put the wise to shame; and the feeble things that he might put to shame the strong; And the low things of the world, and the things without honor, did God make selection of, yes, even the things which are not, so that he might make as nothing the things which are: So that no flesh might have glory before God.***"

Do you hear the reason, Beloved? Verse 29 says, **"SO THAT NO FLESH MIGHTY GLORY IN HIS SIGHT!"** What a powerful statement concerning the **"Faith of God."** The Lord is under no obligation to honor our words, only His own words spoken under the power of the Holy Spirit. Some of the problem of the 80's faith movement is that it

became the ***“name it and claim it gospel.”*** Some took the faith teaching to extremes. Some of the movements teachers taught, we could actually command God to do what He says in His word because we say so. A result of the faith movement was the growth of much pride and arrogance, and a looking down upon those who didn't have this revelation.

Another by-product was an isolationist mentality that only “word of faith” people could minister to each other, so many other parts of the Body were not accepted because they didn't have the “revelation” of what faith was. God has corrected much of the excesses some of the teachers taught about faith. Joyfully, some of the influential leaders of the movement have even repented for some of the extremes the faith teaching brought. With all that said, the revelation of faith was extremely valuable to so many people. Many who were in poverty could now believe God could prosper them, and they would not have to live on welfare the rest of their life. They began to believe that God could provide their daily bread and prosper them even as their soul prospered. Many who were sick believed Jesus was their healer! This was a first step for many to come into the true liberty of the Lord.

True and living faith must go beyond God meeting our everyday needs. Matter of fact Jesus said, ***“that we are not to worry about what we are going to eat or drink.” He said, “don't worry about what you wear or where you are going to live.” Why? “Because you are of more value than the birds of the air and lily of the valley, and your Heavenly Father already knows that you have these needs!”*** (Mat.6:25-34) Our faith must grow beyond believing God to take care of us. True living faith already knows that fact and is secure in it. Why is that important? Because knowing this fact in the depth of your being is the only way you can be about the business of the Lord. Mathew 6:33 says, ***“Seek ye first the Kingdom of God, and its righteousness, and ALL THESE THINGS SHALL BE ADDED UNTO YOU!”*** Beloved a walk by faith has to go beyond ***“our daily necessities and our needs”*** to understanding the ***HEART OF GOD AND HIS NEEDS.***

Faith becomes alive and active in us when we ***KNOW what God desires*** for our lives, families and those around us. Faith becomes active when we lose the right to our lives, and we understand that God Himself has taken the responsibility to provide for us as we obey His every word. That is why faith requires ***HEARING***, and ***HEARING by the Word of God.*** It is the ability to hear God 's voice that enables us to do His will and purpose. ***Hearing God's voice daily and allowing Him to quicken His very words in us empowers us by faith to accomplish what is “impossible for man.”*** Peter heard the word from Jesus in the boat, ***“Come”*** and Peter got out of the boat and ***walked upon the water.*** His faith came by hearing and hearing a word from Jesus and he did the impossible. He learned how to walk by faith.

Beloved this is essential! Without a life of intimacy with God through the Holy Spirit we can ***NEVER WALK BY FAITH! WE WILL NEVER KNOW WHAT TO DO OR WHERE TO DO IT!*** At best, we will try to do His will in our understanding. We will read a few verses of scripture and try and go out to do it, but it will be in the ***power of the flesh*** and not the ***quicken WORD that came by the Holy Spirit.***

The Holy Spirit is the most important person on the face of the earth. He is the most important person that came to live in your body that He calls His temple. The bible tells

us, **“know ye not, ye are the temple of the Holy Spirit.”(1 Cor. 6:19)** We know God is one, but manifests as three persons, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Yet it does not say, ye are the temple of the Father, or of Jesus, though they cannot be separated. It says we are the **“temple of the Holy Spirit.”** Why? Because He is the promise of the Father that was to come to lead, teach and guide us and live in us.(Luke 24:29) He is the One who has come to empower us in the God-Kind of faith to obey God’s commands, every last one of them.(**Acts 1:8, “ and you shall receive power, after the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be a witness!”**)

Beloved without Him, we can do nothing! Without the Holy Spirit we can never **BE A WITNESS** in these dark days that are to come. Please ask the Lord to reveal the person of the Holy Spirit to you. Ask Him to Baptize you with the Holy Spirit and Fire, and believe that He will not give you a stone when you asked for bread. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal the very heartbeat of the Father to you, and that from this day forward to learn to hear His voice. Remember Beloved Jesus said in John chapter 10:27, **“My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.”**

Our scripture verse tells us **“that no flesh shall Glory in His sight.”** Only a life filled and lived with the Holy Spirit can glorify God. Only a life dependent upon hearing the voice of God can please Him. Only a life humble enough to see their great need for God alone, and to become completely dependent upon His will and purpose for their life can walk by faith. A life lived without the Holy Spirit is **“foolishness to God.”** A life lived in the Holy Spirit is foolishness to man. Who do you want to please, God or men? These are the ingredients that enable us to **“walk by faith and not by sight!”** Then precious child of God, **No flesh will glory in His sight!** In the next chapter we will study the question will the Son of man returns, we He find faith on the earth?

Chapter Twelve

When the son of man returns, will He find faith on the earth?

In the last chapter, we learned about the life of faith in the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the most important person on the earth today. The Holy Spirit is the person that has come to do a deep work in our heart which activates the God-kind of faith in us. **The Holy Spirit is the life that flows from the vine (Jesus Christ) to the branches (every believer in Christ). He is the life source of faith, because He communicates faith’s very purpose and power in us to “will and do” the Father’s good pleasure. He brings the voice of God to live in our hearts. He quickens the very words of God to our Spirit enabling us to do all God desires to accomplish by FAITH!**

A walk by Faith **REQUIRES** us to **WALK IN THE SPIRIT!** Listen to God’s word on this topic:

(Rom 8:1) There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after he flesh but after the Spirit.

(Rom 8:4) That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk no

after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

(Gal 5:16) This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

(Gal 5:25) If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

Why does the Lord require us to walk in the Holy Spirit or walk by faith? **SO THAT NO FLESH CAN GLORY IN HIS SIGHT!** So important is His Glory that in Genesis 11:1-8, when mankind made a plan to make a **“tower that would reach into heaven and to make a name for themselves,”** the Lord came down to stop them by confounding their language. The reason is found in verse 6, **“that nothing they imagined they would not be able to do.”**

Ability is not man-kinds problem, **stealing God's glory is!** Lucifer, the chief angel of worship tried to lift his heart above God to take God's place and **steal the Glory** that belonged to God alone. He chose to launch a rebellion and turned one third of the angels against God for that very purpose. It did not work for him or these fallen angels. God kicked Lucifer and these fallen angels out of heaven into an everlasting punishment. Satan tried again at Babel. This time by seducing mankind into doing the same rebellion in trying to **steal God 's Glory by them reaching into heaven to make a name for themselves.** Beloved, it did not work in heaven or at Babel, and it will not work now or forever!

God gave us His own creative ability to express ourselves or we would never have the beautiful art, music, entertainment we have today, (Godly kind of course). Mozart, Leonardo da Vinci, Thomas Kinkade, and others have shown us the creative beauty God has put in us. However; these abilities and beauties He placed in us were never intended to be **APART** from God and His Glory! They were never given for us to glory in as if we were the creator of these things and not God. Our life, our breath, our strength, our gifting and talents are all on loan from God. When we are in right relationship with God through salvation, we will give **GOD THE GLORY HE DESERVES.**

We do this by acknowledging Him in all our ways. If we paint well, we glorify Him. If we sing well, we glorify Him. If we succeed in anything, we **NEVER** take the credit or the **GLORY!** We give it all to God who is the very source of that success. This is the reason God has not chosen many noble, or wise in this world. God has chosen the weak, feeble, lowly, and things so they will **GLORIFY GOD.**

God is not arrogant and does not need a pat on the back. Those who walk by faith in Him alone want to **Glorify Him as their CREATOR** because **it is RIGHTEOUS to do so!** Those who recognize their inabilities and weakness are far more likely to honor God and glorify Him for all that they accomplish in life. **THEY HAVE A HEART THAT WILL GIVE GOD ALL THE GLORY!** That is why God chose a Gideon, Abraham, David, Peter, Steven and others to show His might power and strength. Those who the world would despise, God chose to show His love and power and what **a “true life of faith”** really can accomplish.

As spoken about in an earlier chapter, Steven was such a man that God would choose to show forth His power. In Acts chapter 6, the Apostles were getting to busy trying to distribute food to the widows and orphans that they would have to neglect the

Word of God and Prayer if a solution was not found. So, it came to them to select 7 men to do the job of giving out food. So, they chose seven, one being Steven who was a man **“full of faith, and full of the Holy Spirit.”**

Why was Steven chosen? I believe he was chosen to show us why a **“true life of faith”** was needed to even distribute food. For in the distribution of food he was able to **“hear the Holy Spirit’s voice”** and work great signs and wonders in the midst of the people as a deacon! (Acts 6:8) **“And Steven full of FAITH AND POWER, did great miracles and wonders amongst the people.”**

His life was so full of faith and the Holy Spirit that God used him to preach to the religious leaders about the Holy Spirit Himself. **“Ye stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, you do ALWAYS RESIST THE HOLY SPIRIT, as your Fathers did, so do you.”** (Acts 7:51)

Could this rebuke be spoken to our generation as well? Can we as Christians continue to try to live this Christian life in the flesh (the mind and reason apart from the Holy Spirit)? The church tried this in Galatia and the Apostle Paul had to rebuke them by saying, **“who has bewitched you and cast a spell over you. “You started this life IN THE HOLY SPIRIT, why are you trying to reach perfection dependent upon the flesh.” (Gal. 3:3)**

The choice for our generation is this, are we are going to live a life of **“the true faith of God or not?”** Are we are going to learn how to **“walk by faith and not by sight?”** Will we be a people whose faith will please God? Will we learn how to walk in the Holy Spirit and live in Him as the scripture tells us we must? Or are we going to continue to be like the church in Galatia? Remember Beloved, **“the mind of the flesh which is sense and reason without the Holy Spirit is death.”** (Rom. 8:6)

I encourage each reader to re-read this book often to allow the Spirit of God to quicken its contents in your heart. Let the Holy Spirit quicken in you the divine ingredients necessary to live a life of **“the true faith of God”** and to walk in it. It is going to be an absolute necessity to walk in the **“God-Kind of faith”** to make it in the days that are to come. In this time of terrorism, murders, natural disasters, wars and rumors of war, we will not be able to survive without the **“living faith of God.”** We will not be able to survive without a life lived in the Holy Spirit and His life being lived in us.

We must become intimate worshipers of the Lord **“now”** to develop that **“hearing heart”** while we still have time. Our goal in this hour should be to **“truly know Him.”** (John 17:3) The Holy Spirit has been given to us so we can live every moment of our life led by Him as our constant **GUIDE**. He will show us what to do, where to go, what to speak, and even show us the things to come. (Mathew chapter 10, John chapters 14 and 16)

We must press on to know the Lord as He wants to be known in order to do His will and know His ways. The Holy Spirit has come to show us the way we are to walk. He will prepare our hearts to be ready so the **“day of the Lord”** will not come upon as a **“thief in the night.”** (1st Thes.5:2) His mission in these last days is to prepare a people ready for the Glory of the Lord to fill the earth. Today beloved, if you hear His voice, harden not your heart! **“When the son of man returns will he find faith on the earth?” (Luke 18:8).**

Chapter Thirteen

You can say to that Mountain

Beloved, now that we have learned the ingredients of the God-kind of faith, what is God's intended purpose for us to have it? In Mathew chapter 6:10, Jesus tells us to pray this prayer, "Thy Kingdom come, **thy will be done, on earth as it is heaven.**" This is the true reason why God has given us the gift of faith. The faith of God RELEASES GOD'S WILL ON EARTH, JUST LIKE IT IS IN HEAVEN! The only resource we have as believers to walk in the will of God and do all God desires us to do is by FAITH ALONE!

Many believers pray every day and get little or no results from their prayers. There are prayer groups all over our nation, and in every church and yet we see such little impact of the power of prayer. What is the reason for this lack of answered prayer particularly in America? A heart filled with unbelief.

Beloved, if we want to see our families, neighbors, cities and nation saved and made whole, then we need a different kind of prayer. A prayer that avails much! A prayer that can seize the kingdom of God violently. A prayer that can apprehend God and be pliable to work with Him to release on earth His will and desires for our nation.

The key to effective and powerful prayer is the power found in the active faith of God, or the God-kind of faith filling every prayer we make. A faith that does not seek it's own aim, wisdom or power. A faith that is not seeking to get things from God to fulfill their lusts and needs, but a faith that will believe God will shake the nations out of their blindness. A living faith that causes heaven to continually touch earth with the Gospel and power of God. An active faith so in tuned with the Holy Spirit that it can hear the very whisper of God and obey it instantly.

This is the true life of faith we are called to walk. A faith not resting in projects, programs, and agendas or committee meetings. But a real and living faith that lives by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God. A faith that can speak as God speaks and gets the God-kind of results as in the early days of the church. A faith that says, ***"silver or gold I have not, but that which I have I give to you, pick up your bed and walk. The crippled man obeyed the word and was healed!"*** (Acts 3:6-8)

Faith give us the power for to be "instant in season and in out." Faith gives the power that can speak a word of wisdom or a word of knowledge that can set the captive free. Faith gives us the power that can open the eyes of the blind, cast out devils and raise the dead, by a word spoken to your heart by the Holy Spirit. Faith is the power to hear God clearly to warn you from the dangers that are to come. Faith gives you the ability to dream dreams and see visions. Faith gives you the ability to discern what is from God and what is not. Faith gives you the power to walk in the Holy Spirit 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of GOD!

I pray you understand that ***faith is alive***. It is active and must continually grow. In this book, I have given you the ingredients for the soil in which faith must grow in. However, if you never use what you have learned, it will never grow. Mark chapter 11:22-23 are the real verses the first faith movement was birthed from and the verses the final

movement of a life of faith will come. Let us study them together:

Mark 11:23-24, "Truly I say to you, Whoever says to this mountain, Be taken up and be put into the sea; and has no doubt in his heart, but has faith that what he says will come about, he will have his desire. For this reason I say to you, Whatever you make a request for in prayer, have faith that it has been given to you, and you will have it."

Beloved, listen to the power of the words of Jesus. In the earlier part of Mark 11, Jesus was walking with his disciples when he noticed a fig tree leaves were at full bloom but there were no figs on the tree. This is a picture of what a life of a believer is that does not produce a life of faith. It may be a tree, but it is bearing no fruit. When Jesus sees the tree without any fruit, he curses it and then walks away.

Why did Jesus do this to that tree? He was God and could of spoke, "tree have fruit" and there would have had fruit. But He did not do that, instead He curses it to grow no more. In the book of James 2:17, the writer is going to say to us these words, "**faith without works is dead.**" He tells us that believing alone is not the real kind of faith. He tells us in verse 18, "**You believe God is one, even the devils believe that, and shake with fear.**"

To just believe something in your head is not the God-Kind of faith. Beloved, much of what we do for the Lord in prayer, action, or in deed is in this kind of faith, simple believing a fact. In this kind of faith, we HOPE God will do it. If it doesn't happen we say it wasn't His will, or He doesn't care and give some lame excuse to our unbelief. Living and active faith is much deeper. James tells us that true and living faith has "**corresponding actions**" that **DEMONSTRATES** true faith. In Mark 11:21-22, the disciples are going to walk by that same fig tree and marvel that it withered at the roots. They will say to him, "**master the tree you cursed has withered and died.**" It is in this backdrop, Jesus is going to teach them what living and active faith really is.

When Jesus spoke to that tree **it was not just a word that came from His mind.** What He spoke was the "**Will of the Father.**" What He spoke was the "**Word of His Father.**" **It did not come from his own aim, plan or purpose** as He tells us in John chapter 5, it came from God the Father. Jesus in speaking to that fig tree **released the very word** that proceeded from the mouth of God. **His words were filled with the very power of God to do what is impossible with man, kill a fig tree by a word.**

He was demonstrating to them the power of the "**Word of God**" in the mouth of a man when it is spoken in the power of the Holy Spirit. This same "**Word of faith**" would bring blindness on Bar-Jesus the wizard who was a false prophet opposing Paul and leading many astray. Paul spoke a word of judgment to this enemy of God and blindness came upon him. (Acts 13:11) Paul didn't bring blindness on the man, God did. The **Holy Spirit revealed** to Paul **His thoughts and words of action for Paul to speak and blindness came upon Bar-Jesus.**

In both these lessons of Jesus with the fig tree and Paul speaking to the enemy of God, we see the power of true and living faith at work. We see faith with the corresponding works is alive. This is the life of "**walking by faith and not by sight.**" The fig tree had to obey the very word Jesus spoke because it came from the Father by

the Holy Spirit. Blindness had to come on Bar-Jesus because it was the word from God the Father through the Holy Spirit to Paul.

Again, He could have said, **“tree have fruit,”** but He did not. He cursed the tree because it was fruitless and no good. This is the same thought Jesus says to us if we hide our “faith” under a bushel. This is how we as the “salt” of the earth lose our “saltiness” to the world. We lose it by not having **“faith” that has corresponding actions.** We become salt-less by not using or activating the faith of God in us by our neglect of truly abiding in Him.

Active living faith comes by intimacy with God! In Mark 11:22, Jesus says, **“Have God’s faith!”** Some translations write, **“have the faith of God or have faith in God.”** Jesus tells us to have God’s faith! Jesus tells us this because we have learned, **“God has given to every man a measure of faith.”**

The God-kind of faith comes from God alone. **It comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God.** When God can speak a **living word** to your spirit, **you can speak it!** And when you hear that **“word”** and it burns in your being it must happen as God says! The same God who said, **“let there be light and there was,”** is still trying to speak to every believer’s heart. **He desires to speak His thoughts, plans and counsel to us daily.**

He wants us to know that every word He speaks comes with power. To understand what Jesus is saying here in the Gospel of Mark, we must be able to hear **“have God’s faith!”** As God speaks to you, **believe Him.** When you open up your mouth and speak what He has told you to say **it will happen.** Even if He had you speak to a mountain to be cast in the sea, it will literally get up from its place and go into the sea by the Word of Faith God had you to speak!

That is what a life of **“walking by faith and not by sight”** will produce in a believer. Jesus goes on to say in Mark 11:23-24, **“and has NO doubt in his heart.”** This is why we need to understand the ingredients of God found in 1st Corinthians chapter 1. We now can understand why God does not choose the wise or the noble, but the weak, feeble things to confound the wise. He chooses the weak and feeble in heart to speak a word to them, because they will **believe Him!**

They are foolishness enough not to doubt God, they are broken enough to trust God’s power and not their own. They can rise up and use the faith God has given them and **SPEAK AS AN ORACLE OF GOD!** They can speak as God’s Ambassador, as if God himself were there speaking through them, which is exactly what an Ambassador does. He **SPEAKS** for the government and His words have the very weight of the government behind them. He speaks as one with **“authority.”** That is why the crowds marveled at Jesus teaching, they recognized He was a man with great authority.

Mark 11:23-24 tells us that if we **“do not doubt,”** but have faith that **what you say** will come about, **you will have what you say!** Why don’t we live or walk like this? Because we don’t take time to live in continuous fellowship with the Holy Spirit. We don’t make time to develop our relationship to hear Him speak a word to our spirit, thus we don’t say anything, and we don’t see anything happen either.

“Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.” When our hearts are molded, shaped with the right ingredients, God will speak to us His words, plans and

direction that **“are in heaven and it will be done on earth.”** He is not going to speak to move mountains to a prideful, arrogant heart that will not be broken. He is not going to speak to move mountains to those who don't want to spend time with Him. He is not going to speak to move mountains to those who don't want to love hearing His heartbeat. No beloved, He has to find the right ingredients in a heart of a believer to release His miracle words that could cause a mountain to get up and move into a sea. This is living faith. The faith Jesus is looking for when He returns.

In conclusion, Jesus says these final thoughts about prayer in Mark 11:24, **“therefore I say unto you, whatsoever you desire when you pray, believe that you will receive them, and you will have them.”** Faith produces a listening and hearing heart in a true worshiper who is ready to obey every word they hear from God. It produces a heart ready for God to speak to it in power. It produces a heart within that will dare “come to Him” and believe that “He is!” Faith apprehends everything God has spoken. Faith makes what is spoken by God its own possession on earth as it is in heaven.

Whether it be words to pray, prophesy, or give to another person, the words that the Holy Spirit speaks to our hearts ***will release the Kingdom of God on earth as it is in heaven.*** When we walk in this kind of faith, God will allow the realm of the invisible Kingdom of God to become visible to a world in desperate need of the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords.

Chapter Fourteen - Epilog

The invisible realm of Glory

I pray this book has been a blessing to you in understanding the nature of the God-kind of faith. It is imperative that we allow the Holy Spirit to work deeply in our heart to bring forth the precious gold and silver character of the Lord. The bible tells us that ***“faith works by love”*** and this is the very nature and character of God, He is LOVE!

This book was inspired by the Holy Spirit to open our eyes to the need of the God-kind of faith that must be active and alive in our lives. We cannot be caught unawares in the days that are ahead. We must know the Lord intimately through the Holy Spirit. We must allow Him to lead, guide, teach and instruct us every day to what we are to do and where we are to go. This cannot be accomplished by going to church twice a week or doing a ministry. It does not come about by reading books or going to conferences. Faith can only develop **by hearing and hearing by the Word of God.**

We must stop all our business and get back to our first work. We must love the Lord our God with all our heart, mind, soul and strength. He must be our first love or the Lord Himself will come and remove His candlestick from our midst. This candlestick is the symbol of His presence. When the “Presence of the Lord” leaves, we will be unable to hear His voice. We will not be able to walk by faith without His voice living and alive in our hearts. This is the very work the Holy Spirit has come to do. This is one of the great benefits of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

The fire of God comes to thoroughly come and purify our hearts to be able to hear clearly the voice of the Lord, so we can obey His every command. This is what a true "walk by faith" is! In this book, I have explained the ingredients necessary to "**walk by faith**". I have shown you what the Lord requires and the ingredients He uses to active faith. If you are weak, limited, needy and desperate, you are a prime candidate for the Lord. If you don't have earthly honor, recognition, and praise, then God can use you to be a Man or Woman of faith!

We are about to behold the invisible Glory of God being made manifest on the earth. I am not talking about His glorious return. I am talking about His arising in His people of faith. Isaiah chapter 60 is the word of the Lord that is about to be fulfilled. The invisible God is about to become visible in His people like never before. The invisible Kingdom of God is about to be seen in and through His people as a Witness, and then the end will come. I will close this book with these verses from Isaiah chapter 60, and soon God will give us deeper understanding of "**and not by sight**", the invisible of God swallowing up the visible of this world. May God bless you as you press on to "**walk by faith...and not by sight...**"

Isaiah 60:1-3, "Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of Lord is risen upon thee. For, behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the peoples; but Jehovah will arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee. And nations shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising."