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Principles Of Faith **Pastor Charles Mendenhall**

Faith is the victory that overcomes the world. There are principles of faith and power in God's Word and without them it will be challenging to rise up in the victory that God has already provided for us. Without learning and exercising faith principles, we will never walk in our inheritance.

Heb 4:2 *"For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it" KJV*

Heb 11:6 *"But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." KJV*

Faith is pleasing to God, faith has its rewards for you right here on earth as well as in heaven.

Rom 4:16 *"Therefore, [inheriting] the promise is the outcome of faith and depends [entirely] on faith, in order that it might be given as an act of grace (unmerited favor), to make it stable and valid and guaranteed to all his descendants—not only to the devotees and adherents of the Law, but also to those who share the faith of Abraham, who is [thus] the father of us all." AMP*

Through everything that Jesus did for us and as the promise was to Abraham, so it is to us. We have the same inheritance that Abraham had.

Gal 3:6-9 *"Even as Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness. 7 Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham. 8 And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed. 9 So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham." KJV*

Faith principles are so simple, they become illusive, and faith principles are not complicated.

God through Jesus has provided for all to be born again, but we determine whether we accept Him. It doesn't change God's plan if our choice is to reject him.

In reading Mark chapter 5, we see the greatness of Jesus, that He is Lord over every demon spirit, over terminal sickness or disease and over death.

2 Thess 1:3 *"We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is meet, because that your faith groweth exceedingly, and the charity of every one of you all toward each other aboundeth;" KJV*

Paul speaks of growing faith in our lives.

Matt 17:20 *"And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you." KJV*

Many refer to this as a small amount of faith. Some believe that this is the only kind of faith that is needed.

Rom 12:3 *"For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith." KJV*

We receive a measure when we are "born again", but it must grow over time as we grow as believers. What are we doing with this measure of faith? Are we developing it or are we letting it lay dormant?

Mark 4, Matthew 13, and Luke 8, teaches that the "sower sows the seed of the Word of God" and how when it is sown it is to grow up and bear fruit, some 30-60-100. Jesus taught that nothing would be impossible to us when we have growing faith in our lives.

Mark 11:22-25 *"And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God. 23 For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. 24 Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them. 25 And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses." KJV*

The following is an example of a lady in the Bible who acted in faith, by her words and actions. She was able to change her outcome by exercising faith in the word. We know this because Jesus told her that "her faith" had made her whole. She determined her outcome; God did not determine her outcome.

Mark 5:25-34 *"And a certain woman, which had an issue of blood twelve years, 26 And had suffered many things of many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was nothing bettered, but rather grew worse, 27 When she had heard of Jesus, came in the press behind, and touched his garment. 28 For she said, If I may touch but his clothes, I shall be whole. 29 And straightway the fountain of her blood was dried up; and she felt in her body that she was healed of that plague. 30 And Jesus, immediately knowing in himself that virtue had gone out of him, turned him about in the press, and said, Who touched my clothes? 31 And his disciples said unto*

him, Thou seest the multitude thronging thee, and sayest thou, Who touched me? 32 And he looked round about to see her that had done this thing. 33 But the woman fearing and trembling, knowing what was done in her, came and fell down before him, and told him all the truth 34 And he said unto her, Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace, and be whole of thy plague." KJV

She had been trying to get her healing, spent all her money and was no better, but worse. She had done all that she could do. But when she heard about Jesus, she determined and said with her mouth if she could only touch Jesus she would be made whole. It took her 12 years to develop her faith. She knew that she could be punished for being out in public. She did not hear that healing had been done away with, she had heard about Jesus as told in Mark 1 (leprosy) Mark 2 (four friends) Mark 3 (hand made whole) Mark 4 (calm the sea). What she heard inspired her faith. She became single minded, ignoring all the surrounding circumstances. She touched Jesus; He did not pray for her, she reached out to Him. She was fully persuaded like Abraham.

Rom 4:21 *"And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform." KJV*

This same example of the woman with the issue of blood is found in Matthew chapter 9 and Luke chapter 8.

Rom 10:17 *"So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." KJV*

We do not get faith just by praying or attending church. Faith comes by hearing the Word of God. Hearing by the ears of our spirit. We must hear by the Holy Ghost.

Isa 50:4 *"The Lord God hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary: he wakeneth morning by morning, he wakeneth mine ear to hear as the learned" KJV*

When God touches us, He is also going to touch our mouths in order that we change what we are saying. Abraham is an example of this, changing his name changed what was being said each time his name was spoken.

Heb 11:3 *"Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear." KJV*

A man had brought his son who was demon possessed to Jesus, the disciples had been unable to help him. He called the disciples faithless. Just because we come to church does not mean that we have faith.

Matt 17:17-20 *"Then Jesus answered and said, O faithless and perverse generation, how long*

shall I be with you? how long shall I suffer you? bring him hither to me. 18 And Jesus rebuked the devil; and he departed out of him: and the child was cured from that very hour. 19 Then came the disciples to Jesus apart, and said, Why could not we cast him out? 20 And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you." KJV

Many years ago the power of the gospel was lost and embraced instead with sense knowledge; therefore they could not experience it. Circumstances were the basis of their doctrine and not God's Word.

Jesus' apostles had unbelief. Unbelief, faith and fear can be talked about from the law or from grace. Grace and truth came by Jesus. Grace is God's power working in us, enabling us to do what we cannot do by our own strength and ability. God's grace is sufficient in any area we are facing.

Rom 5:2 *"By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God."* KJV

Faith is always released by saying.

Early in Mark 11, Jesus and the disciples had passed the fig tree which was barren having no figs on it and Jesus had cursed the tree. The next morning the disciples noticed that the tree had died and they inquired of Jesus what had happened. He taught them how the God kind of faith worked.

Jesus did not minister on earth as God, He ministered as man anointed by God

Mark 11:22-25 *"And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God. 23 For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. 24 Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them."* KJV

We believe we receive when we pray and then we shall have. Whosoever shall say.

The spirit of God is saying, I am the Lord that healeth thee, I am your deliverer and you shall accomplish the purpose that I have you for and your outcome will be favorable and will be enjoyable, so take hold, arise and begin to shine and be radiant with the glory of the Lord, for God's glory and presence has risen upon thee and has risen upon thee now and we speak life and hope to you in Jesus name. We speak wholeness to you in Jesus name. So be strong and be of good courage. Leaning on the everlasting arms.