

**Introduction:**

- Two weeks ago on Wednesday night I shared with you a message on Faith For Healing. We basically looked at all the scriptures in the Gospels where Jesus said, *"be it unto you according to your faith."*
  - From this we established that faith is not an option for healing, it is essential.
  - Secondly, you can't let anything else take the place of your faith.
- Just listen again to these verses:
  - Mark 5:34 *"Your faith has made you whole."*
  - Mt 9:29 *"According to your faith be it unto you."*
  - Mt 8:13 *"As you have believed, so be it done to you."*
  - James 1:6,7 *"But when you ask him, be sure that your faith is in God alone. Do not waver, ... Such people should not expect to receive anything from the Lord."* (James 1:6-7, NLT)
- Two truths we have established and you can go back to notes on line to review.
  - One, healing is provided for in our redemption. Is. 53:3-5 tells us that by His stripes we are healed. 1 Peter 2:24 says the same only in past tense. By His stripes we were healed. The work was done at the cross and it is now our job to believe. Ps. 103:2,3 Bless the Lord, forget not all His benefits. He forgives my sin and heals my disease. Healing is provided for in redemption.
  - Two, the Word of God is sure. We should not doubt the Word of God.
    - *"God is not a man, so he does not lie. He is not human, so he does not change his mind. Has he ever spoken and failed to act? Has he ever promised and not carried it through?"* (Numbers 23:19, NLT)
    - *"No, I will not break my covenant; I will not take back a single word I said."* (Psalm 89:34, NLT)
    - God guarantees in His Word to reward our faith! Again, (Matthew 8:13, NLT) *"Then Jesus said to the Roman officer, "Go back home. Because you believed, it has happened." And the young servant was healed that same hour."*

**I. Types of Faith**

- A. We know there is such things as great faith, little faith, no faith, etc. I want to talk about the different kinds of faith found in the word that we need to be aware of.
- B. Kinds of faith:
  1. Mental assent or "head faith." IE. It is the kind of faith that if you turn on your GPS and punch in your destination, it will get you there. In your head you believe that it will accurately get you there.
    - a) *"You say you have faith, for you believe that there is one God. Good for you! Even the demons believe this, and they tremble in terror."* (James 2:19, NLT)
    - b) Numbers 14:39-40, the people after rebelling against Moses, Joshua and Caleb want to go up and take the land. This was a faith in the head and not the heart. If it was of the heart they would not have wanted to disobey Moses by go up to take the land.
  2. Faith -
    - a) Some want to call it saving faith based on Eph 2:8. Faith is not a gift of God, salvation is. Which is the entire subject of Eph 1-3.

- b) Faith is what happens when we hear the Word. Faith comes by hearing the message, and the message through the Word of God. Romans 10:17
- c) It is not a gift, it is a result of listening to the Word. The Life is in the seed of the Word. Acts 16:31 *"Believe and you will be saved."*
- 3. Fruit of the Spirit Faith Gal 5:22
  - a) The Fruit of Faith is the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer. (Gal. 5:22).
  - b) This is a growing faith that develops through abiding in Christ and His word abiding in us.
- 4. Gift of Faith 1 Cor 12:9
  - a) The Gift of Faith is an empowerment of the Holy Spirit that comes upon the believer at a particular time. This is an immediate faith that will move mountains.
  - b) It is given by the Spirit most often in times of urgency. The Gift of Faith empowers the believer to trust God for His supernatural protection.
  - c) It is a supernatural empowerment by God to trust Him.
- 5. Faith, Fruit of Spirit Faith, and gift of faith are all faith!
  - a) The difference is how they come.
  - b) Through the Word. Through abiding in Christ. Through the supernatural endowment by Holy Spirit.
  - c) All three let us access God.
- C. When it comes to healing:
  - 1. I read the Word to know what to trust Him for.
  - 2. I abide in Him, so my heart does not condemn me and I trust because I know Him
  - 3. I believe the gift of faith to operate because of the Word, the abiding in Christ, and God movement in life because of who He is. Ps 91 angels having charge over me.

## II. Faith Is Accessible To All And Can Be Nurtured

- A. Pay the price...do the work...pursue it. As a believer faith is something that you want to have! You do not want to be lacking faith when God has given us the means to have great faith!
  - 1. The goal is complete confidence in God.
  - 2. The price is our effort to receive what He has freely given.
- B. Love God
  - 1. 1 John 4:18 says that perfect love casts out all fear. Fear is the opposite of faith. You can't have faith if you do not love God. We know we are walking in love when we obey His commands—Not because we have to but because we get to!
  - 2. *"... What is important is faith expressing itself in love."* (Galatians 5:6, NLT)
  - 3. Love is manifested by obedience.
- C. Obey God
  - 1. *"Dear friends, if we don't feel guilty, we can come to God with bold confidence. And we will receive from him whatever we ask because we obey him and do the things that please him."* (1 John 3:21-22, NLT)
  - 2. Abraham is seen as a man of great faith. How did he demonstrate that faith? By obedience.

3. He was raised mostly in a heathen system, but somehow heard God and followed.
  4. He obeyed all the way from leaving Ur of Chaldea to preparing his son for sacrifice.
  5. Saul on the other hand did not obey. Listen to God through Samuel the prophet: *"But Samuel replied, "What is more pleasing to the Lord: your burnt offerings and sacrifices or your obedience to his voice? Listen! Obedience is better than sacrifice, and submission is better than offering the fat of rams." (1 Samuel 15:22, NLT)*
  6. Disobedience is a great hinderance to faith!
- D. Abiding in Christ
1. *"But if you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask for anything you want, and it will be granted!" (John 15:7, NLT)*
  2. When we abide in Christ we position ourselves to exercise real faith.
  3. According to 1 Jn 2:6 If we abide in Him we walk with Him and look like Him.
  4. *"Anyone who continues to live in him will not sin. But anyone who keeps on sinning does not know him or understand who he is." (1 John 3:6, NLT) Abiding.*
- E. Study the Word!
1. Romans 10:17 Faith comes by hearing. Read the Word as the most authoritative book you have been given.
  2. Do not let tradition rob you by making the Word of no effect. Mk 7:13
  3. Do not let neglect of the Word rob you.
  4. Read His word, obey his commands and believe His promises.
- F. To not do the above mentioned can be taught or understood as hinderances to your faith.

**Conclusion:** Let's believe for healing now.