

STUDY TEN – FAITH ACTS!

Introduction

God framed the worlds by faith. Everything God made, He made by faith. Everything He does, He does by faith. For you and me, it's no different. What works for God will work for us. But how did God make everything by faith? If we knew that, we could frame our world, too, right? Well, in Genesis 1, we find that God's faith was released with words.

The account of Creation goes something like this: "In the beginning God said, let there be light... and there was light. God said, let there be a firmament... and it was so. God said, let us make man..." etc. *Do you see the pattern?* "God said... and it was so." God literally spoke all of Creation into existence. Hebrews 11:3 says that the worlds were framed by The WORD of God. That is the very same way we frame our worlds. We are created in God's image to live like Him!

Notice, that Genesis doesn't say "God thought... and it was so." No, God spoke. That's how He operates. That's how faith operates. What's more, God has never stopped speaking. Down through the Old Testament and into the New, we see how God continued to pour His WORD into the earth, primarily using prophets to speak His WORD. The reason God released all that WORD into the earth was to give substance for when the time came for Jesus—the ultimate WORD given by God—to appear in the flesh. He brought Jesus into the earth by His WORD!

Get Your Mouth in Gear

I like to describe faith like this: **Faith is movement. It's a mouth in motion.** Here's an example of what I mean. Let's say my body is being attacked with symptoms of sickness. Thousands of years ago, God spoke a promise about healing into the earth. He spoke through His prophet Isaiah and said: *"Surely, he hath borne our griefs [sickness, weakness and distress], and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed"* (Isaiah 53:4-5 AMP).

Many years after that prophecy was spoken, Jesus came—God's promise in the flesh—to fulfil that WORD. Galatians 3:13 AMP describes the results of Jesus having come to this earth: *"Christ purchased our freedom and redeemed us from the curse of the Law and its condemnation by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs [crucified] on a tree (cross)"* Looking back on Jesus' ministry, the Apostle Peter also wrote, *"Who his own self [Jesus] bore our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye WERE healed"* (1 Peter 2:24).

Now, here I am with symptoms of sickness attacking my body. What do I do. Remember, faith is what gives substance to that for which you and I hope. In this case, I'm hoping to be delivered from this sickness. Faith, also gives God the opening necessary for Him to pour His favour and blessing into our lives, bringing the manifestation of that promise, and its provisions, from the spiritual realm into the natural realm—which is where my body needs it at the moment. But now, how does faith make that draw on God's WORD? By taking action. And how does my faith take action? By speaking The WORD and then acting as though it is done. Romans 10:6-10 describes the process like this:

“But the righteousness of faith speaks in this way, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down from above) or “‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith which we preach): that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart, one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”

The provision for all that God has promised us—health, healing, salvation, protection, prosperity—has already been established in heaven and earth. The work was completed 2,000 years ago. Receiving that provision is up to us. That’s where mouth and motion come into play.

In Isaiah 55:10-11 AMP, we read: *“For as the rain and snow come down from heaven, and do not return there without watering the earth, making it bear and sprout, and providing seed to the Sower and bread to the eater, so will My word be which goes out of My mouth; it will not return to Me void (useless, without result), without accomplishing what I desire, and without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it.”*

Our new hearts, like the earth, we are good ground for The WORD of God. They are the abiding and functioning place for His WORD. Likewise, our mouths are the implements of faith that speak the words out of our hearts to enable us to reap the harvest we desire. We reap that harvest by believing and thus speaking the promises of God unto fulfilment. That’s why we read in James 2:14,17: *“What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him? ... Thus, also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.”*

Our faith must act. The faith stored in our hearts must come out. Otherwise, it is dead and of no use. You release faith with your words. You and I have the responsibility of getting our hearts and mouths in gear, speaking and acting as though we’ve already received the fulfilment of our desire. We believe we receive when we pray. From the moment we release our faith, we must talk and act as though it is done. We must take action by speaking as God spoken and give substance to His promises. As we do, we give substance to something we can drive, something we can eat, something we can wear, something that can heal our bodies. We give substance to our world.

Questions:

Why is faith heaven’s window into our lives?

How does your faith take action?

How has God released His WORD into the earth? Why is this important?

What other lessons have you taken from this study?
