

## FAITH FOR HEALING

### 1. FAITH IS THE VITAL COMPONENT IN HEALING

- A. Faith is essential in receiving the Kingdom.
  - I. *But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him. Hebrews 11:6 NKJV*
- B. Jesus responded to faith, remarked about faith, taught faith, and reproved regarding lack of faith.
- C. We have to believe to receive.
  - I. *And whatever things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive. Matthew 21:22 NKJV*
  - II. If you want to see more miracles, believe to see them.
  - III. *Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes." Mark 9:23 NKJV*
  - IV. Consider Jesus' words in the following passage:
  - V. *And suddenly, a woman who had a flow of blood for twelve years came from behind and touched the hem of His garment. For she said to herself, "If only I may touch His garment, I shall be made well." But Jesus turned around, and when He saw her He said, "Be of good cheer, daughter; your faith has made you well." And the woman was made well from that hour. Matthew 9:20-22 NKJV*
- D. Faith can on the part of the prayer, the receiver or both.
  - I. People have been healed that I've prayed for just because they believed.
  - II. When I asked them how they felt after ministry, I've asked them, "Are you sure?"
  - III. I was the one that had to be convinced.
  - IV. John G. Lake once said to a lady without faith, "Lady, I have enough faith for both of us."
- E. The burden of faith is typically on the practitioner with our primarily prayer ministry model we utilize.
  - I. However, it is helpful if not vital that the recipient cooperates with their faith.

### 2. THE SUBSTANCE OF FAITH

- A. What is faith?
  - I. We see the word *emuwnah* in this OT verse: *The just shall live by his faith. Habakkuk 2:4b NKJV*
  - II. It means firmness, steadfastness. We see this as Moses hands made steady in the fight against the Amalekites.
  - III. *And Aaron and Hur supported his hands, one on one side, and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady (emuwnah) until the going down of the sun. Exodus 17:12 NKJV*
- B. Another Hebrew word is *aman*, and it means to trust, stand firm, be certain, believe in.
  - I. *And he (Abraham) believed in the LORD, and He accounted it to him for righteousness. Genesis 15:6 NKJV*
  - II. However *Aman* is more than just belief, it is about relationship. It implies intimate relationship.
- C. *Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. Hebrews 11:1 NKJV*
  - I. This verse tells us faith is the confident assurance that what we hope for is going to happen.
  - II. The word faith used in the Greek is the word *pistis*.
  - III. It means the conviction of the truth, belief with the predominant idea of trust.
- D. Trust is a reliance on the character (faithfulness, goodness) or ability (power) of someone. (Merriam-Webster)
  - I. Faith is not faith in faith itself, but rather in God.
  - II. So Jesus answered and said to them, "*Have faith in God.*" **Mark 11:22b NKJV**
  - III. Faith is also trust in the character of God.
  - IV. And so we trust in God, but we're also trusting in his character- this is revealed and from relationship.
- E. When we begin to focus on our faith, we focus on our own inadequacy, generating doubt.
  - I. Also, faith is not a firm belief in something for which there is no proof.
  - II. The Indiana Jones and the last Crusade depicts a blind leap of faith. This is not biblical faith.
  - III. Clearly faith is more than just believing. Faith without the evidence is not faith at all.
  - IV. *Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. James 2:17 NKJV*
- F. The source of faith is ultimately God, and he usually supplies faith by a word.
  - I. *Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word (rhema) of God. Romans 10:17 NKJV*
  - II. Faith can come by a word of knowledge, scripture, prophecy, or gift.
- G. We can have confidence for healing because the provision for healing is at the cross of Christ.
  - I. *He was wounded (pierced) for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed. Isaiah 53:5 NKJV*

### 3. FAITH IN ACTION

- A. Faith could be described as simply believing God has spoken and obeying his voice.
- B. Faith is something that can be seen.
  - I. *When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven you." Mark 2:5 NKJV*
- C. What does faith look like? Sometimes it looks like boldness or tenacity.
  - I. *Now they came to Jericho. As He went out of Jericho with His disciples and a great multitude, blind Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus, sat by the road begging. And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"*

*Then many warned him to be quiet; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"*

*So Jesus stood still and commanded him to be called. Then they called the blind man, saying to him, "Be of good cheer. Rise, He is calling you." Mark 10:46-49 NKJV*

- D. Or consider:
  - I. The women with the issue of blood, pressing past the crowds, despising her shame, breaking rules in Luke 8.
  - II. Or the four men carrying the paralytic man, ripping open the roof, and lowering him before Jesus in Mark 2.
  - III. Or the centurion said, "But say the word, and my servant will be healed." in Luke 7.

### 4. WHAT DOES FAITH ACCOMPLISH?

- A. Faith is about access! We have access by faith into grace.
- B. *Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.*  
**Romans 5:2 NKJV**
  - I. Grace is unmerited favor, but the Greek word *charis* translated as grace also implies God's enabling power.
- C. Faith gives us access to this power (*dynamis*).
  - I. *Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes." Mark 9:23 NKJV*
  - II. *Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? Galatians 3:2 NKJV*

### 5. THE SOURCE OF FAITH

- A. The source of faith is ultimately God.
  - I. Faith is a gift from Him (including the gift of faith).
  - II. *"A man can receive nothing unless it has been given to him from heaven." John 3:27 NKJV*
- B. Faith comes from hearing.
  - I. *So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. Romans 10:17 NKJV*
  - II. The phrase "word of God" here is *rema theous*.
  - III. A more direct translation might be: Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by a word of God.
  - IV. This could include Scripture but also includes by a word of knowledge, prophecy, dream, testimony, etc.
- C. So the keys here growing in faith would be the same as growing in hearing God's voice.
  - I. Grown in intimacy (friendship) with Jesus – spend time with him, when you hear his voice listen (obey) him!
  - II. Abide in love and become intimate with the sound of his voice.
  - III. Desire earnestly to prophesy. Pursue love, desire spiritual gifts, but especially... **1 Corinthians 14:1**
  - IV. Take risks (action demonstrates faith).
- D. When the disciples asked, "Increase our faith," regarding forgiveness.
  - I. Jesus replied, *"If you have faith as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be pulled up by the roots and be planted in the sea,' and it would obey you. Luke 17:6 NKJV*
  - II. When the disciples asked, "Why could we not cast it out?" regarding a demon.
  - III. Jesus replied, *If you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you. Matthew 17:20b NKJV*
  - IV. Mustard seeds are tiny! That's Jesus' point.
  - V. We don't need great faith; we just need simple trust in him. We need simple faith in great God!
- E. I find faith and hunger often work together.
  - I. Spiritual hunger has been vital for me in believing God for the impossible.
  - II. As desperation for Jesus has consumed me, the missing ingredient of faith often appears.
- F. "Faithfulness to minister often precedes the faith to heal" – Randy Clark

## 6. THE SOURCE OF JESUS' FAITH

- A. Jesus, fully man and fully God, was completely dependent on the Holy Spirit for his power.
  - I. Jesus modeled for us a life dependent on the Holy Spirit.
  - II. *"Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner."* **John 5:19 NKJV**
  - III. We often paraphrase this as, "I only do what I see the Father is doing!"
- B. Jesus' faith was firmly rooted in his confidence in his Father, his relationship with the Father, and his Father's will.
  - I. *I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me.* **John 5:30 NKJV**
  - II. Jesus was completely obedient to the Father.
  - III. He got his instructions and authority directly from heaven.
- C. Consider the following Scriptures as Jesus describes his relationship with the Father:
  - I. *I do nothing of Myself; but as My Father taught Me, I speak these things.* **John 8:28b NKJV**
  - II. *"I and My Father are one."* **John 10:30 NKJV**
  - III. *He who has seen Me has seen the Father.* **John 14:9b NKJV**
  - IV. *I do not speak on My own authority. The Father who dwells in Me does the works. Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me, or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves.* **John 14:10-11 NKJV**
- D. Jesus was deeply rooted in the Father's love and walked in intimate relationship with the Father.
  - I. We see the Father's love for Jesus at his baptism.
  - II. Before Jesus had started in any ministry, his Father affirmed him.
  - III. Jesus' priorities demonstrated his intimacy, and we see him often turning aside to pray or seek the Father.
- E. Just as Jesus was completely dependent on his Father, we need to be completely dependent on Jesus and his leading.
  - I. *"I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing."* **John 15:5 NKJV**

## 7. REFERENCES

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