

**Faith Number 2**

**Lesson Six**

Last week, I taught on FAITH. Many of you have heard a lesson on faith but it was probably a lesson about one of the characters in the Old Testament and how they trusted the Lord. That is good but I can almost bet you have never heard a lesson like I taught last week and like the lesson I am teaching today.

This teaching on faith is the **most important subject I will ever teach and that you will ever hear**.

**Why is that?**

**Hebrews 11:6 (KJV)**
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.

God wants you to believe in Him and He wants to **REWARD YOU**, He wants to **BLESS YOU!**

**Last week I told you that I believe what most Christians think is faith, is actually hope.**

**Hope lives in the realm of the soul (mind, will and intellect). Faith lives in the realm of the spirit (the real you that connects with God and goes beyond human reasoning).**

**You can’t know the difference between what is in your soul and what is in your spirit WITHOUT the Word of God!**



**Hebrews 4:12 (KJV)**
12  For the word of God *is* quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and *is* a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Jesus asked if He would even find faith when He returns to earth.

**Luke 18:8b (KJV)**
8  ,,, when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?

You would think that ALL Christians would have faith but it just isn’t how it is. Yes, we are all given a “measure of faith” from God.

Without that measure of faith, none of us could be saved! But after that, it is OUR RESPONSIBILITY to GROW OUR FAITH!

This is going to be a hard thing for some of you to receive but listen closely to what I am saying.

You need to STOP EXPECTING GOD TO GIVE YOU EVERYTHING, BECAUSE **HE HAS ALREADY GIVEN YOU EVERYTHING**. YOU MUST REACH INTO THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN AND TAKE WHAT HE HAS GIVEN YOU!

**He has already paid the price for your sins. He has already paid the price for your healing. He has already made provision for your supply!**

**Matthew 11:12 (KJV)**
12  And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force.

**Matthew 11:12 (GW)**
12  From the time of John the Baptizer until now, the kingdom of heaven has been forcefully advancing, and forceful people have been seizing it.

Instead of getting **into the Word of God** and finding out just **what He has already done and already made provision for**, most Christians are waiting for God to operate through one of the gifts of the Spirit and then most Christians don’t even know what those gifts are or they think they ceased way back somewhere in time.

One of those gifts is the gift of healing. One is the gift of miracles. But, we can see God’s provision in our life without a gift of healing or a gift of a miracle. We can see God’s provision by us finding out what His Word says and then TRUSTING in Him and doing what He says.

We all know that faith comes by HEARING THE WORD OF GOD! But, do we REALLY understand that?

**How do we know that? Because the Bible tells us so!**

**Romans 10:17 (KJV)**
17  So then faith *cometh* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

If I were to ask each of you how many times you opened your Bible this week and studied the Word of God, how many times would you say you did?

I’m not talking about reading a devotional. Those are good but they should NEVER take the place of reading the Bible for yourself! Why? How are you going to know the devotional is Biblical if you don’t get into the Word for yourself.

**ALWAYS make sure you spend more time in the Word than in devotionals.**

**Faith does not come through our reasoning!**

**Last week, I gave a quote, “The Word of God TRUMPS reasoning every time.”**

**What does that mean to you?**

**1 Corinthians 1:27 (KJV)**
27  But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty;

I hear people say things almost every time I teach that are from people’s reasoning, NOT from the Word of God.

“Death is the ultimate healing.” No it is not! It just means your body, which is mortal, has died. It has been separated from your spirit and soul and will return to the dust.

“God always answers prayer. It may be a ‘Yes’, a ‘no’, or a ‘maybe’, but He always answers.” This doesn’t even make sense. The Bible says God always answers our prayers IF we pray according to His will!

You will not find scripture that backs up these sayings. Because people do not know what the Word of God says, they try to reason what they see with their senses (they walk in the flesh) instead of walking in the Spirit and reading and believing what God’s Word says.

If you have missed the other lessons in this series, I would sincerely encourage you to go to our class website and listen to the ones you have missed!

In this series,

**Lesson 1** – We set the foundation for this series.

**Lesson 2** – We talked about how we establish Biblical doctrine.

**Lesson 3** – We discussed how we should “hear or receive” the Word of God.

**Lesson 4** – We explained what “Repentence from dead works” is.

**Lesson 5** – We talked about FAITH and talked about the difference between HOPE and FAITH.

**In the Essentials Unity; in the Non-Essentials Liberty.**

**These disagreements should be based on God’s Word not our reasoning.**

**Someone may come in here believing that Muhammed is a way to God. We cannot begin to agree or disagree because we do not have a “point of reference” which has to be the Word of God, not the Quaran or anything else.**

**You can disagree with what I teach but why do you disagree?**

**Do you base your belief on scriptures (What scriptures) or do you base it on your human reasoning?**

**If faith comes by hearing the Word of God, do you think it is reasonable that we base our faith, our belief, on the Word of God?**

**A few short years ago, Carlton Pearson had the whole world at his fingertips. He pastored a growing church in Tulsa. He was on the board of directors at Oral Roberts University. He was frequently on Christian television.**

**Then he came out with a doctrine that is not Biblical. He called this doctrine, the “Inclusion Gospel.” It is nothing new, having been called “Universalism” and other names. The doctrine basically says that everyone will go to heaven. No one will be doomed to hell and the Lake of Fire.**

**I saw a book once that taught the same thing. The author of this book had some Muslim neighbors. One of their adult children was killed in a car wreck and he could not tell the family that their family member would be eternally lost since they did not know Jesus.**

**Does the gospel change because we don’t want to believe something?**

**Malachi 3:6a (KJV)**
6  For I *am* the LORD, I change not; ~~therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.~~

**WHAT CAN AND SHOULD BE USE TO BASE OUR FAITH ON?**

**We have to base our faith and our beliefs on the Word of God or we will have so many different beliefs that no one will know what to believe!**

Some Christians, even some ministers believe that the gifts of the Spirit and some of the ministry gifts ceased. Some say they ceased when the apostles died. When I ask them, “What about Paul?” they respond, “Well they ceased when Paul died.” When I ask about the church at Corinth, the get frustrated and say, “Well after all those people died.”

Some things will cease, when PERFECT is come.

Jesus Christ is PERFECT. When He returns we will no longer need many of the things we have now.

**1 Corinthians 13:8-10 (KJV)**
8  Charity never faileth: but whether *there be* prophecies, they shall fail; whether *there be* tongues, they shall cease; whether *there be* **knowledge**, it shall vanish away.
9  For we know in part, and we prophesy in part.
10  But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.

Right now, the Bible says we look through a dark lens at the things of God (1 Cor. 13:12). Right now, we know in part. When we speak in tongues

**Romans 8:26 (KJV)**
26   Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

When Jesus returns, we won’t be like we are now. We will have an immortal body. We will know what the perfect will of God is then where we don’t now.

Again, most Christians mistake HOPE for FAITH.

Faith is very different than hope!

**James 2:19 (KJV)**
19  Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.

Many Christians have **GREAT HOPE, VERY FEW CHRISTIANS HAVE GREAT FAITH!**

People tend to reason things out instead of looking to what God’s Word says.

**HOPE** says – “I believe God can heal me if He will.” It can even say, “I have faith that God can heal me IF He if He will!”

**FAITH** says – “Himself took my sickness and disease! By His stripes I AM healed regardless of how I feel or what I see!”

**God’s Word was written and given to us so we can KNOW what His will is and walk in faith!**

**1 John 5:13 (KJV)**

“These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; **that ye may know** that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.”

God wants us KNOW that we have ETERNAL LIFE.

What else does God want us to KNOW He provides for us?

 **Health or healing**

 **Prosperity**

We have been taught that we have to pray and pray and pray for the same thing instead of doing what Jesus said. He said **we should believe we receive when we pray**!

**IF YOU REALLY BELIEVE YOU RECEIVE WHAT YOU PRAYED FOR WHEN YOU PRAYED, ARE YOU GOING TO KEEP ON ASKING GOD FOR THE SAME THING?**

**NO, YOU ARE GOING TO THANK HIM AND PRAISE HIM!**

How can we believe we receive when we pray? We accept, by faith, that we receive when we pray.

Faith is our substance, it is our evidence that we have received what we prayed for.

The natural man cannot receive this. He cannot understand it because our soul, our mind, our will and our intellect, cannot receive things of the spirit.

**Romans 4:17 (KJV)**
~~17~~ ~~(As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed,~~ *even* God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were.

**Years ago, I was a “pumper” in the oil field. I had a friend that worked in the oil field and he made much more money than I did. I think I was making around $25,000 a year. He was making $40,000 a year. One day I saw him in the Oklahoma panhandle. He told me that he really needed to make $50,000 a year so he said he had prayed and asked God to raise his income to $50,000 per year. Then, he believed he received that raise by faith AND he acted on his faith. He started giving his tithe on that amount.**

**The next time I saw him was two or three months after that and he said he had been given a raise to $50,000 per year!**

**Will this work for you?**

**You see, FAITH BELIEVES WHEN WE PRAY – THEN FAITH ACTS BECAUSE WE HAVE RECEIVED – WE GIVE GOD THANKS FOR ANSWERING OUR PRAYER - THEN WE ARE PATIENT FOR GOD TO BRING THE MANIFESTATION.**

**Kenneth Hagin Jr. said his dad used to say to him frequently, “When are you going to start acting like the Word of God is true?”**

**If your car isn’t running right and I tell you to take it to the shop and that I will take care of the bill, supposing I am a man of my word (God is always true to His Word, more so than even the most honest man), what are you going to do?**

**You will take your car to the shop and tell them to fix it, knowing that it is already taken care of!**

**I have told you many times what is the most important scripture in the Bible. Do you remember what it is?**

**Numbers 23:19 (KJV)**
19  God *is* not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do *it*? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?

**I want to ask you that today. “When are YOU going to start acting like the Word of God is true?”**

**If you do something just because someone else did, it probably won’t. If you do it because you feel the Lord is leading you in this and you base what you do on scripture, then it God will watch over His Word and make sure it does work!**

**Jeremiah 1:12 (GW)**
12  Then the LORD said to me, “Right. I am watching to make sure that my words come true.”