

How to have Unwavering Faith

Scripture: "Let us hold fast the profession of our Faith without wavering; (for He is Faithful that promised. Hebrews 10:23

Question: What do all these have in common? 1. Surviving a hungry den of lions. 2. Having children after being barren. 3. Receiving sight after a lifetime of blindness. 4. Winning battles with impossible odds.

Answer: One word: Faith. But not just any kind of faith: the kind that doesn't turn back! I personally know how easy it is to have faith one day, but when faced with an obstacle, to change your mind. But the faith that God is looking for is the kind that doesn't turn back. James 1:6-7 says, "But let him ask in faith without wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed." "For let not that man think that he will receive anything of the Lord." This verse is pretty straight forward.

It's like heading out on the ocean to a promised destination. You may and probably will, encounter storms, but what will you do when that happens? Turn back and stop believing? Faith only has one direction and that is to go forward in our Faith, and hold fast! When the Storm Rages: Sometimes the storms strike and it feels impossible to go forward. That is when you drop anchor: the Anchor is Jesus Christ. We must focus on Jesus, the Source of our faith. "Looking unto Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our Faith; who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of God." Heb. 12:2. I want you to picture that you are in a boat going to the promised land, and let's say, it's about Healing. So you are going along, having believed and prayed for God to heal you, and suddenly your symptoms get worse. You start to think that maybe Jesus isn't going to heal you after all, and maybe He doesn't even care; you think, maybe He wants me to be sick forever.

These are the wind and the waves, and they can be very strong! You say, to yourself, "I know that God is for me;" If God be for me, who can be against me." He sent His Son Jesus to die for me; and no matter what happens in this life, He will never leave me or forsake me. Heb. 13:5 What Happens When you Turn Back? When you turn back in your faith; believing the lie that God doesn't care or can't help you; something really bad happens. (It feels better for the moment, because you are getting out of the storm zone ("The devil, Thief comes to Steal your faith, because he doesn't want you to believe and get the promise." Jn 10:10) But you are actually getting further from your promise. It's like if I ordered something online to be delivered to your home, but decide to move somewhere else because it's taking too long. When the package comes, it has no one to receive it and back to the sender it goes. God doesn't want you to miss your blessing, but he needs you to hold tight until the right time comes to give it to you.

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What's happening in the meantime: Why does God make us wait? It can be the most frustrating thing; Joseph must have thought so when he spent years in slavery, then more in prison, waiting for his dreams of leadership to be realized. But the Bible says something very important in those years. "Until the time came to fulfill his dreams, the Lord tested Joseph's character." Ps. 105:19:"Until the time that his word came: the Word of the Lord tried him."

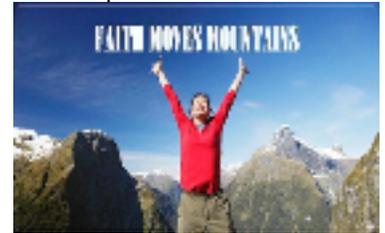
Joseph's character was being hammered out in those of extreme hardship. Imagine if as a child, you were promised the car of your dreams; But then your dad delays giving it to you. Is he mean? No! He wants you to not crash, and to enjoy the gift when you are ready to receive it. God has amazing things for you, but He wants you to be ready to enjoy and use them responsibly.

What to do if You are Doubting?

Faith as two positions: standing firm and going forward. So what if you are doubting right now? I want you to be encouraged by Peter, one of Jesus' disciples.

Peter and his friends were in a boat when they saw Jesus walking on the water. Peter just stepped out in faith and started to walk out on the water towards Jesus; But then, he started doubting and immediately began to sink. Maybe you feel like that. But Peter called out to Jesus, "Lord save me! And Jesus reached out and caught him, and pulled him up. There is Hope for you. If you are wavering right now in your faith. Maybe you have even taken steps back from believing; but ask Jesus to renew your faith and take steps to get back in agreement with God's Word. Find some Bible verses to help to renew your mind, and to encourage you; like: "By His stripes I am healed." and no matter how you feel, for example, you can confess, for example, "I am not feeling well today, but by His stripes I am healed." And also, keep your mind busy confessing God's Word, which will help you to overcome all things, including healing. For example: Psalm 103:1-6 is a great one to memorize and confess over your circumstances, and also a few verses in Ps. 34. Here are some shorter verses: "But my God shall supply all my "Need" according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus." Phil. 4:19

"But thanks be unto God who giveth us the victory thru our Lord Jesus Christ." 1 Cor. 15:57. "Nay, I am more than a conqueror thru Him who loved me and washed me from my sins in His own blood." Rom. 8:37, Rev. 1:5. "The blessing of the Lord, it maketh rich, and He addeth no sorrow with it." Pr. 10:22. "All things are possible to him that believeth." Mk. 9:23. "Many are the Afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivereth him out of them all.." Ps. 34:19 "The Name of the Lord is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and are safe." Pr. 18:10. "He sent His Word and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions." Ps. 107:20 "In all things give Thanks, for this is the Will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." 1 Thes. 5:18. "Now thanks be unto God who causeth us to Triumph in Christ Jesus!"



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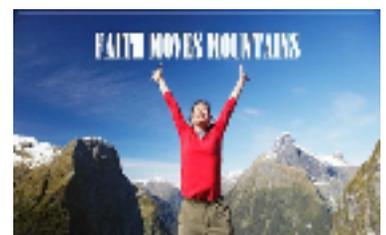
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