

FROM Faith 2 Faith

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BUILDING GREAT FAITH



The Word Living in You

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[JLM]
Jeff Loewen Ministries



Hi Partners and Friends

Wow we have entered into the last quarter of 2019 and again have you been taking the time to frequent the Table of the Lord, to fellowship with Him, hear from Him to grow and change and increase, to be distinguished all for His glory?

I taught a message called "Building Great Faith" and one of the things the Lord said was that hearing and knowing are not faith. Faith comes by hearing, but hearing is not faith and if we don't understand this, we can deceive ourselves James says.

We will get into more in this issue of the Faith 2 Faith. To listen or watch this message go to our [website](#) or [YouTube channel](#).

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Jeff & Audrey



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Proclaiming the Word of Faith unto Soteria - Rom. 10:8-13



BUILDING GREAT FAITH

By Jeff Loewen

Great faith doesn't just happen, any more than a house just happens it is built piece by piece and step by step as we see in Rom 4:12.

Rom 4:12 NKJV

*... but who also walk in the **steps of the faith** which our father Abraham had while still uncircumcised.*

The bible reveals that there are degrees or measurements of faith. No faith (Mark 4:40), little faith (Matt 6:30), weak in faith and strong faith (Rom 4:19, 20) and Matt 8:10 says great faith. In 2 Thess 1:3 we read that our faith grows exceedingly and from faith to faith in Rom 1:17.

We understand then from these verses that there are degrees or levels of faith and we are where we are. We are where we are, not necessarily where we think we should be or where others think we are. Yet the good news is we are not stuck where we are, but we can grow from there.

So then how do we get more faith or grow great faith?

God tells us in Rom 10:17 that

Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Notice what the Holy Spirit is saying here. That faith comes by hearing the Word of God. Hearing is not faith and knowing the Word is not faith, but faith is faith.

We have all thought or said this before when we hear someone begin to teach the Word we've heard or know, "oh I've heard that before" or "I know that" and then not listen intentionally to hear what the Holy Spirit is wanting us to get.

It is important that we get this because if we think that having heard it and knowing it are faith, we are deceiving ourselves.

James 1:22 NKJV

But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

If we think we have faith because we have heard or know the Word, we are fooling ourselves. Because faith is not hearing the Word, it only comes by hearing the Word.

For example, I ordered a book rack and a pulpit for our church, paid for them and they were sent to me. They came after I ordered them. When the spinning book rack arrived, it was placed on our front step. When I got home, I went in through the garage since I had something to put in there. I then went to my office and checked the tracking for the order, and it said it was delivered. Up to this point it came but has done me no good.

I looked outside the front door and there it was, so I brought it inside. It came but I still needed to build it in order for me to use and enjoy the benefit of it.

When we hear the Word faith comes, that's it, faith comes and in order for us to enjoy the benefit or result of that faith that came we must put it to work or act on it.

So once again, hearing is not faith and knowing the Word is not faith, but faith is faith. What is faith then?

Faith in the Greek can also be translated as being fully persuaded, conviction, assurance, belief, inward certainty, confidence.

The Lord began to show me this last year and I wrote it down

Faith is the substance, it is that something that makes us different - giving us hope and expectation. We are able to give testimony of the hope (1 Pet 3:15) the confidence and expectation that we have (Eph 3:12). Faith gives us substance – we are to be a people of substance, we are not just talkers, babblers, what we say comes to pass. We believe what we say and speak with confidence and get results. We are convinced and are sure and talk with assurance and inward certainty.

That confidence, assurance and boldness in what God has said is our evidence and proof that we shall have what we say and see what we don't yet see.

Can you see now that faith is not hearing or knowing God's Word. Faith comes by hearing the Word but now what are you going to do with it?

Heb 12:2 tells us that Jesus is the author and finisher or developer of our faith. Great faith is built or developed just as film is developed. Before digital cameras film was placed in the camera and was exposed to light and then removed from the camera in a darkroom and then developed so pictures could be made from that developed film. Film developing is a process and so is building great faith.

What are you going to do with this faith that has come by hearing the Word? What is the process of building this faith into great faith?

For more details on the process of building great faith go to our website (www.jlmin.org/media) and watch or listen to the services.

Here is the breakdown in Mark chapter 4.

- Mark 4:1-32 The Word is the Seed and our heart is the ground
- 21-25 Great faith and its results are for those who want it
- 26-29 This is how we get it
- 30-32 Here is the general process overview

In 1 Tim 6:12 we are told to fight the good fight of faith in order to lay hold of the eternal abundant life and living God has provided for us.

Satan is after the faith that has come after we have heard the Word. In James 1:2-3 it is called the trying of our faith. In Heb 4:2 we are told that the Word didn't profit the hearers because they didn't do anything with the faith that came. The reason there is a fight is because faith is the victory (1 John 5:4) that overcomes the god of this world. Satan does not want you to enjoy victory or the abundant life but faith in God and what He has said will always cause us to triumph. Let's continue.

Mark 4:13-20 The fight after we hear the Word

Here we begin to understand what the fight looks like. There are 4 types of thinking that produce different results in our life. The first 3 types of thinking reveal 3 strategies of the devil to steal the faith that has come by hearing the Word and the 4th is God's way of thinking that produces and brings forth fruit in our lives.

Here is the brief breakdown for you.

Vs 15 #1 Wayside

By not understanding and not wanting to understand the Word they heard the devil is able to steal the Word and resulting faith that came and no result or fruit is produced.

- Stolen

Vs 16 #2 Stony Ground

They were emotionally fascinated with the faith that came from hearing the Word and decided to "try that" but when the symptoms of life, the attacks and pressure of the devil also came, they got offended at God and faith and fell into satan's trap. Then they turned loose of the faith that came by hearing the Word and forfeited their victory.

- Offended

Vs 18 #3 Among Thorns

Since these also understood the Word and took hold of the faith that came satan cannot steal it so he tries another strategy. He brings distractions of worry and fear, money and other things (also symptoms that can be seen and felt) to suffocate and strangle the life from our faith causing it to become unfruitful and powerless.

- Unfruitful

Vs 20 #4 Good Ground

By our receiving God's Word and acting on what He has said we produce results. We hear, understand, believe, act, persevere in doing, are joyful and rejoicing as we are confident in what God has said. We are not moved by how it looks or feels and we keep our eyes on Him and what He has said in His Word and bring forth victorious results in our lives.

- 30, 60, 100 fold fruitfulness or results

In conclusion let's look at Matt 7:24-27 NKJV

“Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock.

“But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall.”

Those who think they have faith because they have heard and know the Word have lives or areas of their lives that fall apart under pressure. But those who hear the Word and choose to take hold of the faith that came and confidently act on that word with inward certainty are building their lives on a solid rock foundation and the storms of life cannot move them.

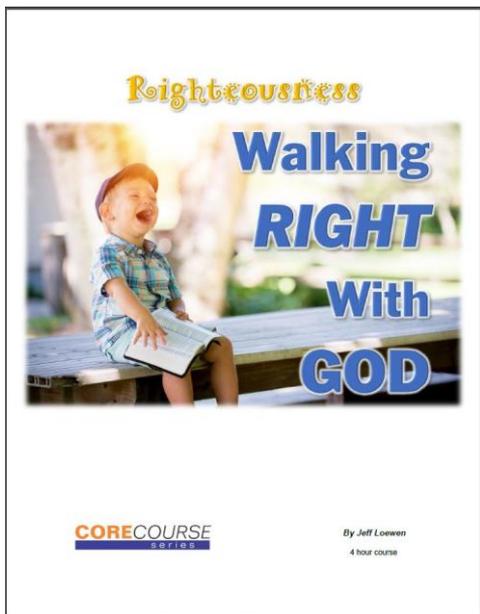
The storms will come but after everything settles, they are still standing, and victory is their testimony.

There are degrees or levels of faith and we are where we are. We can grow from where we are by doing the Word or acting in line with the faith that comes when we hear the Word of God.

By this we please God (Heb 11:6) and enjoy the victory in our lives.



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By Audrey Loewen

Hebrews 4:12 (NKJV) says: “For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”

Did you know words are alive; they are powerful and have the ability to create? They can create life or death, which causes either blessing or cursing to operate in our lives. God has blessed us by providing His

word and teaching us about His word. You can know the power of words and especially the power of **your** words. Understanding how powerful the word is makes you conscious of how you use your words. When you know the power of words and act on that knowledge, you will have amazing results in your life.

Jesus must have been taught about the power of words as He told us He only says what the Father has told Him. You have to have an amazing awareness of what you are speaking in order to only say what the Father has said. Jesus said if you have seen Him (Jesus) you have seen the Father. He walked so closely with God the Father that all we have to do is look at Jesus as our example and follow Him. James teaches us that blessing and cursing is coming out of our mouths but James said this should not be so. Proverbs 18:21 says death and life are in the power of the tongue – we have the authority in our mouths (words) to speak life or death. Cursing should not be coming out of our mouths, we are meant to bless and speak the word only.

The word of God says: “so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible” (Hebrews 11:3 NKJV). You cannot see words but you can see the effect of words. The wind blows and yet you cannot see it. You see the effects of it and if it picks up dust or snow you can see some shape or direction to it. When you say “I love you or thank you, you are such a blessing” you will see people brighten up. When you say ‘body be healed,’ you will see the healing power start to work. Words contain energy good or bad but the good news is once you know how words work, how alive and powerful words are, you have the ability to use your words on purpose to create life around you.

In Proverbs 4:20-22 Solomon talks about paying attention to my words, keep them in your heart because they are life to those who find them and health to all their flesh. God’s word has life and healing in it. There is energy and power in words. Words can build up or they can tear down. I used to cringe when I would pick my son up from elementary school and hear the words, the language coming out of some parents as they berated their little child for whatever. It would make me cry realizing the damage they were doing to those little souls.

My friend, don’t underestimate the power of words and specifically your words that you are speaking. Jesus said we don’t live on bread alone but we are to live by every word from the mouth of God. Use your words to build up yourself and those around you. Take God’s word by speaking it to yourself on purpose and depositing that word in your

heart. Think of the words you speak to yourself or words others have spoken to you. The words spoken created a response in you. Did it help you or hinder you? Did they bless you? Did those words give you life?

Your words control your destiny. Jesus said you can **speak** to the mountain and that it would be gone, and if you **believe**, you will **have** what you **say**. In other words things obey words. Jesus spoke to the fig tree and it died. Likewise when He spoke to the unclean spirits and told them to come out, they had to leave. The spirits had to obey the voice, the words of Jesus. The fever had to leave when Jesus rebuked it. When Jesus said "I am willing; be cleansed" to the leper, the leprosy left immediately. The leper wanted to be well but was unsure if it was right so Jesus answered that for him and took care of the leprosy immediately. Jesus believed and when He spoke circumstances were changed. This is good news that things have to obey what you tell them. Healing has to obey, sickness has to leave. Provision has to come. Storms have to stop.

My husband and I travel a couple hours each way to pastor our church and storms can happen throughout the year. Tornados, hail, thunderstorms in summer and snow storms, ice in winter. We get a lot of opportunity to use our authority by speaking to those storms and commanding them to break up, weaken, be gone, stay away, whatever we sense the Holy Spirit leading us to say and it is awesome to see victory each and every time so that people are safe and we will fulfill commitments. And when you see the storms break up it gives you even more confidence in the power and authority the Father has given you through your words. Jesus said He has given us the power and authority to tread on snakes and over all the power of the enemy. Jesus demonstrated this by using His words.

So when you look at your life and the "mountains" in your life, what are you saying? Are you saying things like "it never works out for me; I get sick every time we go on vacation; nothing good happens to me; if something good happens, great but if not I guess it wasn't God's will?" Maybe you have symptoms/circumstances going on that you haven't dealt with by using the word of God? Then it is time to deal with it once and for all by using your words like a sword and attacking those unwanted, ungodly circumstances. You take the word of God by speaking it and keep speaking it until the situation is resolved.

I missed a day of bible school being sick many years ago but I didn't let it stay. I laid on the couch feeling absolutely terrible but I kept taking

my healing by saying "I am healed by the stripes of Jesus, body be healed. Thank you Lord I am healed" all day. You don't have to speak very loud, I just whispered it to myself and kept repeating. I'm not sure how many times it took before I started feeling better but by midafternoon I was feeling much better and was able to go back to school the next day. What did I do? I attacked it with my words and it caused faith to rise up on the inside of me to overcome and drive out that sickness. When I started speaking God's word over my situation, I could sense the life working in me.

Jesus wants things to be right in our lives. He gave His life so we could have life. He gave us the word so we can know His will and how to manifest it in our lives. God's word has life in it and that word is meant to produce life. Speaking God's word will bless you and help you to win in life. It doesn't matter how long it takes and whatever else you may need to do. Just use your words to be the final destiny and don't quit until you have the results you want. Let the word live in you.

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PO Box 491 - Red Deer - AB - T4N 5G1

Box 44008 RPO Southcentre - Calgary - AB - T2J 7C5