

MAKING YOUR FAITH FRUITFUL

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The Power of Your Awareness

The Balance of your faith and your doubt

- The 1 ft wide, 12 ft long plank walking exercise –
 - Walk the plank for a money reward
 - Lifting the plank from 1 to 50 ft
 - Advice: *Don't look down!*
 - Learn not to look at your circumstances
 - **Jam.1:2-8** - Patience and not wavering depends on the strength of our conviction
- WE CANNOT ESCAPE THE PRESENCE OF THE PHYSICAL WORLD
- **Mt.14:25-30-31** – Peter looked at the waves and began sinking, Jesus pulled him up
 - JESUS DID NOT JUST SPEAK THE WORD
 - You of little faith = Gk. Oligopistos = Lacking confidence
 - Why did you doubt? = Gk. Distadzo = To duplicate, waver

We Can Escape the Domination of Our Senses

- WHERE IS YOUR AWARENESS?
 - **2Cor.5:7** - We walk by faith, not by sight
- Develop INNER AWARENESS
 - GETTING UNDERSTANDING
 - CHOOSING OUR THOUGHTS
 - We choose our future by choosing our thoughts
 - MEDITATING UNTIL WE ARE FULLY CONVINCED
 - BY ACCUMULATING EXPERIENCES – **Rom.1:17** – RIGHTEOUSNESS of God revealed
 - George Müller, minister (1805-1898) started with his health, then socks for orphanages, then reached millions of pounds for 12 orphanages in Bristol, never asking for a penny
 - Our positive experience has a major impact
 - ✦ Use your faith
 - ✦ Start small
- WE CAN HAVE THE FAITH OF GOD – **Mk.11:23-24** –
 - The same kind of faith
 - We are made in the image of God
 - **Isa.46:10** – Declaring the end from the beginning
 - **Rom.4:17** – Abraham called the things that were not as if they were

Manifesting Your Faith

Understanding Inspiration –

- INSPIRATION IS ONLY THE STARTING POINT
 - Inspiration is the sparks that ignites in you the feeling of possibility
 - Inspiration = Gk. Theopneustos = “breathed in by God” or IN SPIRIT and is the work of the Holy Spirit – The Scriptures were inspired
- TURNING INSPIRATION INTO CONVICTION IS A PROCESS, often long
 - Inspiration is not manifesting conviction or faith
 - Many people are inspired to believe, but few have the PATIENCE to bring it to manifest their faith to fruition – **Jam.1:2-7**
 - God spoke and inspired Abraham, but it took Abraham a long time to be fully persuaded
- THE DANGER OF INSPIRATION
 - GOD SPEAKING TO PEOPLE – Often called RHEMA – Spoken word

- Wrong Pentecostal doctrine that produces a lot of damage based on only one Scripture **Rom.10:17** that has been misinterpreted
 - Faith comes by hearing the “Rhema” – Is only talking about manifesting faith but the beliefs of Christianity and the need of evangelizing (read the context)
 - ✦ In those days evangelism was done only by word of mouth
 - ✦ Some think that when something comes to their mind, it is always God speaking to them
- Where your ideas come from? Did you really hear from God? Not all thoughts that come to you are from God
 - Many do not understand the difference between the use of their mind and how their heart/subconscious works
 - These are insecure people who cannot make decisions and want God to make the decisions for them
 - They do not understand that God has given us a mind to use to make decisions from the information we have
 - ✦ They meditate on their ideas, get persuaded, and end up making a mess of their life and thinking it is from God
 - ✦ They justify all their decisions by saying, “God told me!” – This is foolishness

What we hear is often the result of our problems and our priming

- Check things with the Word of God
- If this is not possible, talk to others that have some experience
- Check the facts, get information. Don’t go by your “intuition” and assumptions which are often the result of your biases

The Manifesting Process

We Live in Two Worlds

- BOTH THE PHYSICAL AND THE SPIRITUAL ARE REAL
 - We need to do what is right in both worlds
 - You cannot live without food for too long because your body will become weak and in due time it will die
 - You need physical food for your body
 - You cannot live without spiritual food, or your spirit will be weak and in due time it will die
- IF YOU ARE SICK OR YOU HAVE PAIN in your body it takes a conscious decision to activate your inner senses so that you do not waver and your faith can be manifested
 - Your cells must be reprogrammed and the reprogramming takes a time proportional to the strength of your conviction
- IN THAT TIME you should do all that is possible to help you to keep your faith working on your body. These are physical things like:
 - Protect your heart and do not mix with doubters
 - Find ways to reduce the pain or the symptoms (if you have diabetes and stop taking medication and you go in a coma and your faith cannot work)
 - Stopping medication thinking that that will produce faith is nonsense
 - Taking medication is not a sign of lack of faith, but of wisdom
 - Take time meditating and seeing the results
 - Cast down wrong thoughts and substitute them with good thoughts
 - Make sure your emotions are positive –
 - Emotions will always win over will power
 - Your emotions are essential to win over the physical senses

Questions to Consider

1. What is your experience about escaping the domination of your senses?
2. Read Jam.1:2-8. How would you define patience? How do we develop patience?

3. **Mk.11:23-24 says that we can have the faith of God. Can you explain what is meant by the faith of God?**
4. **Can you explain the difference between inspiration and faith?**
5. **Can you give some reasons why it is wrong to justify our actions by saying "God told me"?**
6. **Is there anywhere in the Bible the support for this self-justification? Is there any difference here between the Old and New Testament?**
7. **How can we operate in the physical and spiritual world at the same time?**