

It was by Faith

Hebrews 12:1-10;

Each of these men and women were ordinary men and women but what made them extraordinary is their faith. By faith they were used by God to move mountains. Not because they were more gifted than their peers or they had greater resources but because they chose to be men and women of faith.

To be a man or woman of faith, you must be able to see beyond your current moment, limitation or situation. Faith requires that you and I see beyond our current reality and place our confidence in an invincible yet omnipotent and omnipresent God.

In order for us to have faith in God, we must believe in the character and nature of God, that God is who he says he is. The end point of faith is believing in His promises, that God will do what he promises He will do.

Because of what God has already done we can believe in him for what is yet to come. God called the Universe into being. He spoke creation into existence. Our faith is in the God who created the universe by His word and sustains it in place every day. God's word is all powerful.

Hebrews 11:6; believing that God exists is only the beginning... Even the demons believe that God exists (James 2:19,20) God's desire is not just mere acknowledgement but a faith that leads to a personal relationship with Him.

Noah experienced rejection because he chose by faith to obey God. He looked like a foolish man building a big boat yet it had never rained in the land. His obedience made him appear different from the people that he lived among.

Genesis 6:22; Noah did everything just as the Lord commanded him.

If God has asked you to walk by faith, He will give you the necessary strength to carry it out. In Genesis 12:1-3; God reveals himself to Abram then calls him to leave his family and the land he was living in and Go to a land that he would show him. Abraham obeyed God. Abraham is not a great man of God because he heard from God, he is a great man of God because he chose to obey and walk by faith. He was even willing to sacrifice his own son because he believed that God was able to bring him back to life. It is the walking by faith that sets us apart from everyone else. What does it mean for you to walk by faith in this season?

Hebrews 18:10-22

Sarah was barren, was beyond the child bearing age, she actually doubted that she could carry a child but God brought her womb back to life and through her a whole nation was birthed.

Luke 17:6 Jesus said, "If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it will obey you." Luke 17:6 NIV
If you have even a little faith, you can move mountains.

A mustard seed is very small but it grows into the largest tree. We don't need big faith, a tiny seed of faith is enough if it is alive and growing.

Faith is a seed that we sow. The seed looks limited and inadequate but within it there is a substance of what is possible. There is a substance of things hoped for. Within the small seed is a tree, within the tree is a forest. Without the seed there can be no forest.

Faith Doesn't Make Things Easy, It Makes Things Possible.

Without Faith, there can be no shift. Faith is the key that opens the door to the supernatural. **Bold Faith, Great faith sometimes stands on the shoulders of quiet trust.** We must remember that every time we are in a place of difficulty, there is a table of intimacy with God that has been set. There are measures of the presence of God that you can only find in the valley moments. Therefore consider it a gift when your only option is God. We are blessed to be a blessing, restored to restore

Numbers 13: Joshua and Caleb, brought back a good report but the rest of the spies. Sometimes God will allow you to step into something or to see something for the moment in order to give you a glimpse of the future. How do you confront your Fear? How do you step out in faith when it's so tempting to give up? How do you stay in obedience when it seems so much easier just to walk away?

Whatever Mountain God has called us to, we must be the Caleb to take the mountain. Caleb has a different Spirit about him. We must have the right perspective, the right motive.

Caleb has the Right Perspective, Men and women of faith:

- see things differently... Not as they are as they need to be.
- Think, speak and act differently.
- Don't see obstacles. They see opportunities.
- See problems through God's unlimited power and resources. Many will say it can't be done. We need to have a different perspective.

God sent Goliath to call David forward. It was the moment for God to pull Him forward into destiny. The Giant has not been sent to destroy you but to distinguish and set you apart, to show you that God is able to do exceedingly above all that We can think or imagine.

We need the Right Attitude

We must have the mind to work. Just because Caleb had faith didn't mean that it was going to be Easy. God will move your mountain but don't be surprised if he will give you the tools instead. God will not do in the supernatural what He has equipped us to do in the natural.

Until a man is nothing, God can make nothing from Him. Martin Luther.

What keeps us from breaking new ground? Is it the same things that kept the children of Israel out of the promised land?

A lack of Faith; The inability to believe in God has already been released. How do we build our faith? Faith comes by hearing and hearing of the word of God (Scripture reference)

Fear; The fear of loss, fear of the unknown, fear of failure.

The words we speak; Do our words reinforce our faith or build fear. "We were like Grasshoppers in their eyes."

Disobedience; We refuse to take the path that God has set for us because it looks too demanding. Disobedience is like the sin of idolatry and rebellion is like the sin of witchcraft.

- because they rebelled against a God.
- Because they have turned away from

Rebellion; A lack of submission and surrender

The children of Israel went into the promised land but they did not receive the entire promise. Again and again they would rebel against the love of God. Egypt would not be there last place of bondage but they would be taken into bondage by the Babylonians and the Assyrians, they would be ruled by the romans. Their rebellion against the love of a God would stand in the way again and again.

Rebel - A person who resists authority, control or Convention. Rebellion exists in families, homes, workplaces. The opposite of rebellion is A heart submitted, a heart of worship, unity

A lack of unity; Pursuit of personal agenda

A lack of understanding, Revelation, Discernment;

What leads us into promise?

- A Heart of Worship (Submitted, honors, lifts up God and lifts up others)
- Prayer
- Fasting
- Obedience
- Humility
- Honor - Honoring God and others.
- Psalm 133; Build Unity;

“The righteous person may have many troubles, but the Lord delivers him from them all; he protects all his bones, not one of them will be broken.” Psalms 34:19-20 NIV

A new season is ahead. God says,

1. I am the God of promise, I will fulfill my promises to you.

God is not man, that he should lie, not a son of man, that he should change his mind. Does he speak and then not act? Does he promise and not fulfill? (Numbers 23:19 NIV)

2. I am with you:

God is with you. When we are confronted by uncertainty, it can be a scary experience. When we are going through pain or loss all we want to hear is that God is with us. His presence is upon us.

3. Be courageous; Do not Fear,

4. Keep my word: Walk in obedience, choose the path of purity....

May the Lord, the God of your ancestors, increase you a thousand times and bless you as he has promised! Deuteronomy 1:11 NIV