

# **PETE BUMGARNER MINISTRIES**

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**THY FAITH**

**STUDY GUIDE**





# THY FAITH

## SCRIPTURE READING

### **Habakkuk 2:4**

Look, the soul of those who are prideful is not good, but the just shall live by his faith.

### **Mark 5:34**

And Jesus said to her, “Daughter, your faith has delivered you; go in peace, and be healed of your disease.”

## THEME

Faith is the key to receiving from God; therefore, we must constantly exercise our faith. We must not become dependent upon the faith of others to get our needs met, but we must exercise “our” faith with an awareness that “our” faith pleases God, Who, in turn, meets our needs.

## I. INTRODUCTION

- A. Faith is the key to receiving from God.
  - 1. Two forces are necessary for getting needs met—faith and power.
  - 2. Neither faith nor power standing alone will accomplish the desired results.
  - 3. Faith is the force which transmits the “power” from its source to the need.
- B. The just shall live by “his” faith, not by the faith of someone else. (Habakkuk 2:4)
  - 1. Too often, people rely on the faith of others to work in their behalf, especially in difficult situations.
  - 2. The responsibility for receiving from God is ours, not someone else’s.

3. God expects us to mature to the point that we can stand on our own spiritual feet.
4. Often, another's faith is both inconvenient and inadequate for us; therefore, we must develop our faith.

## **II. COMMENTS OF JESUS CONCERNING THE FAITH OF CERTAIN PEOPLE**

- A. The centurion with a sick servant had astounding faith. (Matthew 8:5-13; Luke 7:1-10)
  1. The centurion's faith was in the words of Jesus.
  2. Jesus' response to the centurion's statement was one of admiration. Jesus marvelled at the faith of the centurion.
  3. Jesus' reply to the centurion was, "As thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee."
  4. Jesus' power, coupled with the centurion's faith, produced the miracle of healing.
- B. The man sick of the palsy was healed as a result of faith. (Matthew 9:2-7; Mark 2:1-12; Luke 5:17-25)
  1. Jesus saw the faith of the paralytic's friends manifested by their works.
  2. God's power was present to heal, but without faith, healing could not have been accomplished. (Luke 5:17)
  3. Jesus' power and the faith of the paralytic's friends brought about the healing.
- C. The woman with the issue of blood was healed by her faith. (Matthew 9:20-22; Mark 5:25-34; Luke 8:43-48)
  1. Physicians could not help this woman. Her finances were exhausted, and her condition seemed hopeless.
  2. This woman risked the scorn of others by touching Jesus. According to the "law," she was unclean. (Leviticus 15:19-27)

3. When Jesus' power came into contact with the woman's faith, a miracle occurred.
  4. It appears that many people touched Jesus, but only the woman who exercised her faith received the benefit of the power which was resident within Jesus.
  5. The healed woman gave her testimony. Her confession, backed by her actions, resulted in healing.
- D. The two blind men were healed as a result of their faith. (Matthew 9:27-31)
1. The blind men cried out to Jesus for mercy.
  2. Jesus questioned the blind men about their faith.
  3. Jesus responded to the request of the blind men by asking them to demonstrate their faith.
  4. The healing power of Jesus flowed into the blind men as they exercised their faith.
  5. The blind men first located the power, Jesus; afterward, they put their faith into action and went away seeing.
  6. When the power of Jesus and the faith of a believer unite, needs are met.
- E. The Syrophenician woman's daughter was delivered as a result of the mother's persistent faith. (Matthew 15:22-28; Mark 7:25-30)
1. The mother cried out for mercy.
  2. This woman refused to go away defeated.
  3. This lady did not get angry or upset with the power source; she remained persistent.
  4. The woman humbled herself and did not take offense at being called a dog.
  5. This mother was desperately interceding for her daughter, not for herself.

6. The woman's persistence brought this reply from Jesus, "Great is thy faith."
  7. Jesus said unto the Syrophenician woman, "Be it unto thee even as thou wilt."
  8. The power of Jesus and the faith of the Syrophenician woman brought deliverance to her daughter.
- F. Blind Bartimaeus was healed because of his faith. (Mark 10:46-52; Luke 18:35-43)
1. Bartimaeus cried out for mercy.
  2. The crowd tried to keep Bartimaeus from receiving.
  3. Bartimaeus would not submit to the crowd's desire.
  4. The persistence of Bartimaeus got Jesus' attention.
  5. Bartimaeus first called for Jesus; then, Jesus called for Bartimaeus.
  6. Bartimaeus cast away his garment and went to Jesus.
  7. Jesus asked Bartimaeus what he wanted.
  8. At Bartimaeus' reply, Jesus responded by saying, "Go thy way; thy faith hath made thee whole."
  9. Bartimaeus followed Jesus after receiving his sight.
  10. The power of Jesus and the faith of Bartimaeus, working together, resulted in healing.
- G. The sinner woman was forgiven as a result of her faith. (Luke 7:36-50)
1. The woman repented and demonstrated it by her actions.
  2. This sinful woman humbled herself, not caring what others thought.
  3. Jesus forgave the woman of her sins.
  4. Jesus told the woman that her faith had saved her.

5. The power of Jesus and the faith of the sinful woman, working together, resulted in salvation.
- H. The ten lepers were cleansed as a result of their faith. (Luke 17:12-19)
1. These lepers cried out for mercy.
  2. Jesus responded by asking the lepers to put their faith into action.
  3. As these lepers acted in faith, they were healed.
  4. Only one of the lepers returned to give thanks.
  5. Jesus asked why the others did not return to give thanks; He did not say they were not healed.
  6. Jesus' reply to the one who came back was, "Thy faith made thee whole."
  7. Once again, Jesus' power, united with the individual's faith, brought forth healing.
- I. The man with leprosy was healed because he believed that Jesus had the power to grant his request. (Matthew 8:1-4; Mark 1:40-45; Luke 5:12-14)
1. When the leper said, "If thou wilt, thou canst," he revealed his faith.
  2. Jesus responded by showing His willingness to heal the man.
  3. The man came to the power source and used his faith to get that power operative in his body.
  4. Jesus' power and the leper's faith brought healing to the leper.
  5. Immediately following his healing, the leper disobeyed the command given unto him by Jesus and actually hindered the work of Jesus.

### **III. POSITIVE FAITH STATEMENTS**

- A. Jairus said, "Come and lay Thy hand upon her, and she shall live." (Matthew 9:18)
  - 1. Jesus asked Jairus to believe.
  - 2. Jairus said nothing contrary to faith; he believed.
  - 3. The daughter lived because of her father's faith.
- B. The centurion said, "Speak the word only and my servant shall be healed." (Matthew 8:8)
  - 1. The centurion believed in the authority of Jesus' words. (This example is a great one for us to follow.)
  - 2. The centurion's faith resulted in the healing of his servant.
- C. The woman with the issue of blood said, "If I may touch but his clothes, I shall be whole." (Mark 5:28)
  - 1. This woman made a bold confession of faith. Then, she acted on her faith.
  - 2. The woman was healed because she believed in the power of Jesus and because she made diligent effort to get to Jesus. (Hebrews 11:6)
- D. The two blind men said, "Yea, Lord." (Matthew 9:28)
  - 1. These men believed that Jesus had the power to heal them.
  - 2. These blind men went away seeing because of their faith in the power of Jesus.
- E. These people made contact with "the Word which was made flesh." They literally went to the "Word of God" for their healing. Shouldn't we do the same?

### **IV. THE WORD BRINGS FAITH**

- A. Jesus is the "Word made flesh." (John 1:1 & 14)
  - 1. Jesus taught and demonstrated the will of God.

2. Jesus always placed the Word of God as His highest priority; consequently, He always operated in faith.
- B. The Bible is the Word of God; therefore, it is vital that we read and study God's Word until it becomes a way of life for us.
  - C. Our potential to hear is directly related to our knowledge of God's Word. Faith comes by hearing, but hearing comes by the Word of God.
  - D. Teaching the Scriptures will cause faith to arise in the hearts of the listeners; therefore, the Word of God must be taught with authority and demonstrated by our works. (Acts 14:7-10)

## **V. FAITH COMES FROM INTERNAL HEARING**

- A. There is a distinct difference between external and internal hearing.
  1. We communicate with one another externally.
  2. God communicates with us internally.
- B. Faith comes by hearing. (Romans 10:17)
  1. What we feed our spirit man determines what we hear.
    - a. The heart of man devises his way, but the Lord directs his steps. (Proverbs 16:9)
    - b. The heart of man is like a garden. The seed sown into the heart will produce after its own kind.
  2. The heart is always working to produce a harvest from the seed which has been sown into it.
    - a. Our words reveal the contents of our hearts. Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. (Matthew 12:34)
    - b. The forces of life come out of the heart. (Proverbs 4:23)
    - c. What we feed our hearts determines the outcome of our lives.

- d. We should feed the spirit man words of power, God's Word.
  - e. Both faith and doubt come as a result of the seed sown into one's heart.
3. Our heart does not determine the product produced; the seed sown into our hearts determines the product.
- C. God speaks to us internally. Faith comes when we hear God speak His Word to the spirit man concerning our situation.

## **VI. POWER DOES NOT OPERATE WITHOUT FAITH**

- A. Power present does not necessarily bring healing. (Luke 5:17)
- 1. The power of the Lord was present to heal, but only one person was healed.
  - 2. Only those who act in faith receive healing.
- B. Power must be recognized in order for a person to release faith accurately.
- 1. We must recognize the power of the Word.
  - 2. We must recognize the power of God operating through people.
  - 3. We must be solely dependent upon the Spirit of God and the Word of God.
- C. The power in a person cannot operate in our behalf if we do not receive the person.
- 1. Jesus was not accepted by the religious leaders; therefore, they never benefited from His power.
  - 2. Jesus could not do mighty works in His own country because of unbelief. (Mark 6:1-6)
- D. Faith looks beyond the circumstances and transmits power to make the invisible visible.

## **VII. FAITH IS LIFESTYLE (Hebrews 11:1)**

- A. The just shall live by faith. (Romans 1:17)
1. Faith is the **substance** of things hoped for.
  2. Faith is the **evidence** of things not seen.
    - a. Faith guarantees the possession of things hoped for, provided we follow the principle of faith: hear; be convinced; act.
    - b. Hope sets the goal; faith obtains it.
    - c. Faith takes the place of what we hope for until it materializes.
    - d. Faith is founded on God's Word; therefore, it is based upon truth.
    - e. Faith in God's Word changes situations. The operation of faith is really very simple: believe what God speaks; act upon what you hear; and receive.
    - f. The Word of God is a real and tangible thing.
    - g. We must give our attention to what God says, not what we see.
    - h. We please God by faith. All His gifts are received through faith.
    - i. Faith is a way of life, not just an act.
  3. Faith is not an occasional thing; it must be a continuous thing.
  4. We cannot be "just" without faith.
  5. Everyone has been given a measure or degree of faith. We must operate within our faith parameter, which can be expanded. (Matthew 25:21; Romans 12:3; II Thessalonians 1:3)
  6. God's faith, in us, will only work to the extent we allow.

- B. We walk by faith, not by sight. (II Corinthians 5:7)
- C. We must fight the good fight of faith. (I Timothy 6:12)
  - 1. The only fight we should fight is the good fight of faith.
  - 2. We are not to fight anything else.
  - 3. Our attention must be upon God, or we will not be able to fight the good fight of faith.
  - 4. The Word of God does not tell us to fight the devil; it tells us to resist him. (James 4:7 & I Peter 5:8-9)
    - a. Jesus resisted the devil by submitting to the Word of God. (Matthew 4:1-11)
    - b. We must also resist the devil by submitting to the Word of God.
    - c. The good fight of faith means not allowing anyone or anything to steal the Word from us.
    - d. The fight of faith is an internal fight. (II Corinthians 10:3-5)
    - e. Through the Word of God we obtain the faith of God, which gives us the ability to pull down strongholds.
    - f. The faith of the inward man controls the outward man.
- D. Faith is demonstrated by works. (James 2:14-26)
  - 1. Works demonstrate faith; they must never be substituted for faith.
  - 2. Faith never questions the ability, willingness, or integrity of God.
  - 3. Faith stands immovable upon the Word of God.
- E. **Faith in Jesus** is our victory over the world. (I John 5:4)
  - 1. Faith in Jesus conquers the world; our faith must be in Jesus, the Conqueror.

2. Faith obtains God's gifts.
  3. It is impossible to please God without faith. (Hebrews 11:6)
  4. We live from faith to faith; consequently, faith becomes a lifestyle.
  5. Faith transmits God's power to the need.
  6. If we stand and fight the good fight of faith, we will become partakers of God's blessings.
  7. Faith operates in the present tense. We overcome by believing and acting upon the Word of God. The spoken Word has power when it is followed with action.
  8. Faith is the assurance and proof that we have received the thing we desired.
- F. Faith makes the impossible possible. (Mark 9:23)
1. Faith makes the unseen visible. (II Corinthians 4:18)
  2. God made the world by faith. He made the unseen visible through faith. (Hebrews 11:3)
  3. "God said..." The Word precedes the thing created; the Word gives birth to the thing desired.
  4. We must stand firm on the Word of God.

### **VIII. FAITH IS A TOOL**

- A. Faith is not to be worshipped; it is to be used.
- B. When something for which we have believed comes to pass, we should not allow our faith to relax or take a break. We must constantly keep our faith active.
- C. One who walks in faith and utilizes faith properly is not to be placed on a pedestal; he has simply done his duty. (Luke 17:10)

### **IX. SUMMARY**

- A. God's power, coupled with our faith, produces the desired results.

1. God's power is inherent in the Word of God.
  2. Jesus, "the Word," is the Head of the Body, the Church.
  3. Hebrews 1:3 says that everything is upheld by "the word of His power."
  4. The Word contains power; "He sent his Word, and healed them." (Psalm 107:20)
  5. We have to believe the Word of God in order to get the desired results.
  6. When we act on God's Word in faith, we can expect to see things work together for our good.
- B. Faith is not an option; it is a command. (Romans 1:17)
- C. Without faith, we cannot please God. (Hebrews 11:6)
- D. Faith is not just something we do; it is a way of life.
- E. Faith comes by hearing; hearing comes by the Word of God.
1. God's Word is impregnated with power.
  2. Faith accompanies hearing; our source for hearing is the Word of God.

## **X. CONCLUSION**

- A. We must constantly read and study God's Word. (II Timothy 2:15)
- B. We must take God literally at His Word.
- C. We must never allow our senses to dictate our beliefs and actions.
- D. We should not walk by natural sight; we must walk by spiritual insight.
- E. What we feed the spirit man determines the strength of the spirit man in his operations.
- F. We must become products of the Word of God.

- G. We are sons of God with the faith of God. It is time that our lives demonstrate this truth.
- H. Everything produces after its own kind, even our words.
- I. God allows what we allow; God forbids what we forbid.
- J. Positive results are not a question of God's power or God's willingness. Positive results come when we exercise our faith.
- K. Hold fast to your profession of faith. (Hebrews 4:14)
  - 1. Our faith brings victory. "Daughter, be of good comfort; thy faith hath made thee whole."
  - 2. The power of God operates when our faith is active.
  - 3. "...Nevertheless, when the Son of man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?" (Luke 18:8)
- L. Always remember that faith is the only substance with which God has to work when granting our petitions.
- M. May we determine in our hearts to live the lifestyle of faith.

