

## **FAITH CAN GROW**

### **Romans 1:16-17 (KJV)**

**16** *For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.*

**17** *For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.*

-We see here that there is a lifestyle that we are to be living. This lifestyle is called faith.

-We also see that in this lifestyle of faith there are different levels of faith (...from faith to faith...).

### **Romans 12:3 (KJV)**

*For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.*

-Every man has been given a measure of faith.

-What you do with that measure is entirely up to you.

-You already have the necessary tools to please God and receive from Him.

### **Galatians 5:22-23 (KJV)**

**22** *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,*

**23** *Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.*

-Faith is a fruit of the spirit.

-Fruit grows; therefore you can grow in any fruit of the spirit.

## IT'S UP TO YOU!

### **Matthew 9:27-30 (NIV)**

**27** *As Jesus went on from there, two blind men followed him, calling out, "Have mercy on us, Son of David!"*

**28** *When he had gone indoors, the blind men came to him, and he asked them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" "Yes, Lord," they replied.*

**29** *Then he touched their eyes and said, "According to your faith will it be done to you";*

**30** *and their sight was restored...*

-Notice Jesus told the blind men, "*according to your faith let it be done...*"

-That must mean that some people have enough faith to receive certain things and others do not.

-Notice the first thing that Jesus asked them was if they believed in His ability.

-It is important to understand that the God that we pray to has the ability to meet our every need.

-It seems that in order for Jesus to have done this miracle it required two things:

1. They had to believe that Jesus could do it.

2. They had to have enough faith to receive it.

-Jesus had the ability but He left it up to the two blind men.

## IT'S OK TO ASK

### **John 14:13-14 (NIV)**

**13** *And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father.*

**14** *You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.*

### **John 14:13-14 (AMP)**

**13** *And I will do [I Myself will grant] whatever you ask in My Name [as presenting all that I AM], so that the Father may be glorified and extolled in (through) the Son.*

**14** *[Yes] I will grant [I Myself will do for you] whatever you shall ask in My Name [as presenting all that I AM].*

-It is ok to ask God for things. It says so in the Bible.

-Don't let religion and tradition rob you of your rights as a believer.

## **WATCH YOUR APPROACH**

### **1 John 5:14-15 (NIV)**

**14** *This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us.*

**15** *And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him.*

- Notice it starts off talking about the way you approach God in prayer.
- Your approach to God should always start with confidence.
- Then it goes on to say, "if we know that he hears us..."
- The key to prayer is the approach.
  1. You have to know that what you are asking Him for that He has the ability to do so.
  2. It is the will of God for you to receive the things that you ask Him for.

### **Mark 11:24 (NIV)**

*Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.*

- It goes beyond the asking and into the knowing.
- You have to have a confidence about you.

## **RECEIVING MATERIAL THINGS IS OK WITH GOD**

### **Mark 10:29-30 (KJV)**

**29** *And Jesus answered and said, Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my sake, and the gospel's,*

**30** *But he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions; and in the world to come eternal life.*

- You can't serve God without sacrifice.
- Whatever it may be that you have sacrificed God promises that He will repay.
- Not everything has to be on hold until we get to Heaven.
- We can experience Heaven on earth.

### **Psalm 35:27 (KJV)**

*Let them shout for joy, and be glad, that favour my righteous cause: yea, let them say continually, Let the LORD be magnified, which hath pleasure in the prosperity of his servant.*

- This is a scripture that you should say everyday over your life.
- It pleases God when you prosper.
- It said, "Let the Lord be magnified..."
- When you are blessed it magnifies God.
- "God wants to use you as advertisement of how good He treat His children."* –Mark Hankins

## **MEASURING YOUR FAITH**

### **Matthew 9:29**

*"...According to your faith will it be done to you"*

- How can we know how much faith we have?
- Too many people are asking God for more faith and they have yet to do anything with the faith they already have.
- Faith can be measured.
- Is what you have been asking God for not here yet?
- Are you certain that you have the right amount of faith to bring that in?
- Faith is confident.
- Confidence only comes from experience.
- You can grow in faith.
- Begin to measure your faith.
- Start small and find your plateau.
- Once you know what you have to work with now you can begin to set goals for growth.
- Let God be God in your life. **(Philippians 4:19)**
- How much faith do you have?
- What you are asking Him for depends upon it.