The Word of God and Prayer

When we're not receiving what we're attempting to believe God for, we need to take the time to examine ourselves, because there are areas of faith that we can become slack in. I want to give you some scriptures that I always use to remind and refresh myself, and to make sure I'm doing all I'm supposed to be doing.

John 15:7: If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

Mark 11:23-26: For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive *them*, and ye shall have *them*. And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses.

Matthew 17:20, 21: And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you. Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting.

Matthew 18:18-35: Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them. Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times? Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven. Therefore is the kingdom of heaven likened unto a certain king, which would take account of his servants. And when he had begun to reckon, one was brought unto him, which owed him ten thousand talents. ²But forasmuch as he had not to pay, his lord commanded him to be sold, and his wife, and children, and all that he had, and payment to be made. The servant therefore fell down, and worshipped him, saying, Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay thee all. Then the lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and loosed him, and forgave him the debt. But the same servant went out, and found one of his fellowservants, which owed him an hundred pence: and he laid hands on him, and took him by the throat, saying, Pay me that thou owest. And his fellowservant fell down at his feet, and besought him, saying, Have patience with me, and I will pay thee all. And he would not: but went and cast him into prison, till he should pay the debt. So when his fellowservants saw what was done, they were very sorry, and came and told unto their lord all that was done. Then his lord, after that he had called him, said unto him, O thou wicked servant, I forgave thee all that debt, because thou desiredst me: Shouldest not thou also have had compassion on thy fellowservant, even as I had pity on thee? And his lord was wroth, and delivered him to the tormentors, till he should pay all that was due unto him. So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from forgive his brother vour hearts not everv one their trespasses.

Matthew 15:25: Then came she and worshipped him, saying, Lord, help me.

Luke 17:16: And fell down on his face at his feet, giving him thanks: and he was a Samaritan.

Matthew 14:23-32: And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone. But the ship was now in the midst of the sea, tossed with waves: for the wind was contrary. And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea. And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear. But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid. And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water. And he said, Come. And when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me. And immediately Jesus stretched forth *his* hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt? And when they were come into the ship, the wind ceased.

Romans 12:1-3: I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is* your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. 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.

1 Peter 3:7-10: Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving

honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered. Finally, *be ye* all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, *be* pitiful, *be* courteous: Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing. For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile:

1 John 3:20-23: For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things. Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, *then* have we confidence toward God. And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight. And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment.

Jude 20, 21: But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in theHoly Ghost, Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord JesusChristuntoeternallife.

Romans 4:17-21: (As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, *even* God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were. Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be. And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sara's womb: He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.

Romans 8:14: For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

Romans 8:26-28: Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what *is* the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to *the will of* God. And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose.

Hebrews 10:23: Let us hold fast the profession of *our* faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)

Hebrews 10:35-38: Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward. For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise. For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry. Now the just shall live by faith: but if *any man* draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.

James 1:1-8: James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting. My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing *this*, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have *her* perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing. If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all *men* liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord. A double minded man *is* unstable in all his ways.

James 1:22: But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

These verses of scripture are constant reminders of the importance of us continually walking in the God-kind of love, forgiving others as we've been forgiven, holding fast to our confession of faith, guarding our hearts, walking in God's perfect will, keeping ourselves full of God's Word so we don't become double minded, not allowing ourselves to stay in strife or disharmony with others, continually worshiping God and giving glory to Him, and refusing to go by what we see in the natural. Instead, these scriptures are continual reminders to walk by faith and not by sight, call those things that be not as though they are, be led by the Holy Ghost, and keep ourselves built up and praying in the Holy Spirit.

As long as we keep our hearts tender and stay built up spiritually, after we've done our part, we're just to continually stand and fight the good fight of faith. It's easy for us to get over into the flesh and get out of God's will. It's easy to get out of love and out of faith. That's why we have to constantly examine our hearts and motives.

Our daily time with our Father God in the Word and in prayer is vitally important to our spiritual welfare, as well as our physical lives. It takes both–time in the Word every day, (and what I mean by that is reading scriptures out loud to yourself as we read in Romans 10:17: **So then faith** *cometh* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.), and also putting quality time in prayer.

With anything that you're attempting to believe God for, make sure that you're fully persuaded that what you're believing God for is scriptural and founded in the Word of God. Then, use those very scriptures to cast down any doubts that would come to your mind.

For instance, if you're believing God for healing, based on scripture like Matthew 8:17 and 1 Peter 2:24, and if thoughts keep coming to you that you're not any better, just say out loud to those thoughts, *"The Word of God says that by His stripes, I was healed."*

Continue doing this to the point that every time the thought comes, you respond with the Word. Your mind is going to be the battleground, and what is going to determine the outcome is what you do or don't do with God's Word. Just be determined not to quit, relent, or give up your confession of faith. If a thought comes to your mind 1000 times saying: "You're not any better" you say to yourself 1001 times "By His stripes, I was healed." Your persistence in quoting the written Word of God in Jesus' Name will always cause you to prevail.

Acts 19:20: So mightily grew the word of God and prevailed.

Tests and trials and contending for the faith isn't always easy on the flesh, but when done scripturally, the outcome is always victory. Why? Because God's Word never fails.

Isaiah 55:11: So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper *in the thing* whereto I sent it.

Matthew 12:24, 35: But when the Pharisees heard *it*, they said, This *fellow* doth not cast out devils, but by Beelzebub the prince of the devils. A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things.

Mark 16:20: And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.

John 6:63: It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.

John 8:31, 32: Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, *then* are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

I look forward to sharing more with you tomorrow.

Remember, God wishes above all things that you prosper and be in health, even as your soul prospers (3 John 2).

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