



Sunday Morning, August 10, 2025

We are FAITH PEOPLE.

Or at least we are supposed to be FAITH PEOPLE.

<u>Habakkuk 2:4</u> (first mention) – "Behold, his soul which is lifted up is not upright in him: but *the just shall live by his faith*."

(Romans 1:17; Galatians 3:11; Hebrews 10:38)

**BELOVED:** The just SHALL absolutely live by faith...no other way for the JUST to live.

"Just" - just as if I'd never sinned

**OUR DEFINITION:** In position to partake of the promises.

THEREFORE: If we are JUST (and if we have accepted Jesus as our Lord then we are) we are to be FAITH

PEOPLE.

**HONESTLY:** It is not a question.

IT IS WEIRD: How so many "Christians" (religious people) reject the concept of being a faith person.

IT IS NOT WEIRD: Why so many "Christians" (religious people) are not enjoying and living in His promises.

#### Psalm 126:1-6

1 When the LORD turned again the captivity of Zion, we were like them that dream.

**NOTE:** Their captivity had been turned...they were loosed and they were FREE...this describes them after they were free.

**REMEMBER:** When Jesus went to the cross and died...rose again...we were MADE FREE. It was done. Our captivity was TURNED

QUESTION: As I read the rest of this chapter...does this describe MOST Christians

- Then was *our mouth filled with laughter*, and our *tongue with singing*: then said they among the heathen, *The LORD hath done great things for them*.
- 3 The LORD hath done great things for us; *whereof we are glad*.
- 4 Turn again our captivity, O LORD, as the streams in the south.
- 5 They that **sow in tears shall reap in joy**.
- He that *goeth forth and weepeth*, *bearing precious seed*, shall doubtless come again *with rejoicing*, *bringing his sheaves with him*.

Happy Christians? How about Christians who are sowing precious seed when things are not going good? How about laughing Christians?

Most Christians are complaining about their situation instead of being glad...therefore, they are not sowing... therefore, they are not enjoying God's best.

**BELOVED:** If we are going to live this kind of life...we must live by faith.

# Well, How Do I Do That?

(I am glad you asked!)

**TODAY:** I want to take a look at three people, from Scripture, whose faith stuck out to JESUS...and I want to focus on one very important aspect that they all had in common.

### 1.) The Centurion.

<u>Matthew 8:10</u> – "When Jesus heard it, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, *I* have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel."

If Jesus hadn't found anyone else who had this GREAT of faith...we need to take a look at him...what he did.

#### Matthew 8:5-10,13

- 5 And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto him a centurion, beseeching him,
- And saying, Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented.
- 7 And Jesus saith unto him, *I will come and heal him.* 
  - **PLEASE UNDERSTAND:** Jesus didn't need to be convinced to heal...therefore, if He didn't back then, He doesn't today.

Healing isn't about convincing God.

- 8 **The centurion answered and said**, Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed.
- 9 For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this man, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it.
- When Jesus heard it, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel.
- And Jesus said unto the centurion, Go thy way; and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee.

  And his servant was healed in the selfsame hour.

**NOTICE:** Jesus said He would heal his servant...the centurion KNEW that!

**QUESTION:** Do you know what the centurion did?

**ANSWER:** He answered the Word...with his words!

**BELOVED:** It is not our job to explain why is will be hard...it is not our job to explain the intricacies of the problem...our job is to answer the Word when we hear it.

Not to just agree with it...but ANSWER IT!

And you ANSWER something with your VOICE!

**UNDERSTAND:** The greatest faith was displayed by what was in his mouth.

## 2.) The Syrophoenician Woman.

<u>Matthew 15:28</u> – "Then Jesus answered and said unto her, *O woman, great is thy faith*: be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour."

**AGAIN:** We see a person whose faith was GREAT...so let's look at what made her faith so great!

#### Matthew 15:21-28

- Then Jesus went thence, and departed into the coasts of Tyre and Sidon.
- And, behold, a woman of Canaan came out of the same coasts, and cried unto him, *saying, Have mercy on me, O Lord, thou Son of David; my daughter is grievously vexed with a devil.*
- But he answered her not a word. And his disciples came and besought him, saying, Send her away; for she crieth after us.

**QUICK NOTE:** I said in Matthew 8 that Jesus did not have to be convinced to heal the centurion's servant...but here it seems like Jesus is being talked into healing her daughter.

**UNDERSTAND:** In this verse, His disciples told him to send her away...kick her out or here...Jesus didn't! He could have, but He didn't!

**THEREFORE:** He knew what He was going to do...He just wanted to know if she would stick with it.

- But he answered and said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel.
- 25 Then came she and worshipped him, saying, Lord, help me.
- But he answered and said, It is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast it to dogs.
- 27 And she said, *Truth, Lord: yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters' table.*
- Then Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour.

I absolutely know that the point that is usually made with this woman is that she stuck with it...and it is my point today. **But notice something specific...** 

She didn't just host a sit in and stay and be annoying.

**She said and kept saying**...she didn't back off what she was saying. Her words and her expectation didn't change.

**TOO OFTEN:** When we are not seeing things change...or if we are seeing opposition to our faith...we back away, walk away sad...we thought we knew what we were going to get...but nope. Then we change the way we talk.

She refused to change the way she talked.

She kept with it.

- **ILLUSTRATION:** Mark Hankin's mom...early in their ministry (his parents), they were pasturing in a small town in south Texas. His dad had a heart attack and lived but made things very hard. Their church was small...paychecks were not regular. His mom got depressed and had a mental breakdown. She spent months in the backroom of their house in darkness.
- Somewhere along the way they had been introduced to the Word of Faith and knew what they were suppose to do. It kinda brought more shame.
- But the one verse that his mom held onto was <u>Psalm 27:1</u> "The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?" She would speak it day and night…no matter how she felt. At her darkest…she would answer with Psalm 27:1.
- One day, in that backroom...the Holy Spirit showed up and lit the place up...brought the laughter back to her... the shout to her voice...she began dancing...AND DIDN'T STOP.

God healed her and her husband and that church in that small town grew to apparently around 2 thousand.

You just have to stick with it.

**GLORIA COPELAND:** If you believe the Word, you take it, and you begin to say it, act on it and expect it—things will begin to change.

### 3.) The Woman With the Issue of Blood.

- Mark 5:34 "And he said unto her, Daughter, *thy faith hath made thee whole*; go in peace, and be whole of thy plague."
- We notice a phrase that is used several times in the New Testament...her faith made her whole. Why? Be cause your faith is the key in receiving from God...but **we can learn something very important from her**.

#### Mark 5:25-34

- And a certain woman, which had an issue of blood twelve years,
- And had suffered many things of many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was nothing bettered, but rather grew worse,
- When she had heard of Jesus, came in the press behind, and touched his garment.
- For she said, If I may touch but his clothes, I shall be whole.
- And straightway the fountain of her blood was dried up; and she felt in her body that she was healed of that plague.

- And Jesus, immediately knowing in himself that virtue had gone out of him, turned him about in the press, and said, Who touched my clothes?
- And his disciples said unto him, Thou seest the multitude thronging thee, and sayest thou, Who touched me?
- And he looked round about to see her that had done this thing.
- But the woman fearing and trembling, knowing what was done in her, came and fell down before him, and told him all the truth.
- And he said unto her, Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace, and be whole of thy plague.

"For she said" - is an Imperfect Indicative Active in Greek.

**What does that mean?** It is an action that they've been doing something and are continuing to do it... repeating the action over and over.

Vs. 28 - For she said and had been saying repeatedly, "If I may touch but his clothes, I SHALL be whole."

**UNDERSTAND:** She didn't change what she was saying!

- \* What if someone bigger than her got in her way?
- \* What if she was pushed by someone?
- \* What if her strength was gone?
- \* What if she was told that she was stupid? Insulted?

She just kept saying!!

**GLORIA COPELAND:** Don't quit. You can't ever quit. You have to keep believing God, keep saying the right thing, keep doing the right thing—and you'll come out.

### Conclusion

**BELOVED:** God's Word gives us all sorts of promises...the question becomes HOW DO YOU ANSWER THEM

- \* Do you answer them with the facts?
- \* Do you answer them with reasons why it can't work?
- \* Do you answer them with history?
- \* Or do you answer them with Words of Faith?

I want to point something out to you from these three stories...

Two of these people were Gentiles...they were not under the covenant of Abraham or David...they had really NO promises, yet they believed and where healed.

The other person was a Jewish lady...she was considered unclean and not quite as smart as a man...she maybe didn't understand a lot of things, but she believed and she was made whole.

What did all three have in common? They heard about Jesus and what He had done...and that was enough. It changed the way they talked.

They had not read a Kenneth Hagin or Kenneth Copeland book on healing...they just heard about Jesus...and it changed the way they talked.

What has Jesus done? For you? For others?

If He has done it once...He will do it again. If He has done for one...He will do it for you.