



ASK BIG

Stop Praying Small Prayers

GRACE FELLOWSHIP OF MOREHEAD, KY
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Hebrews 10:38 – “Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.”

a.) **“Draw back”** – move away from, decrease

b.) **“Just shall live by faith”** – Habakkuk 2:4; Romans 1:17; Galatians 3:11

When the same statement is used that many times in Scripture...it is probably something you need to set your attention on.

If you are going to live your life... you will need to use faith.

Hebrews 11:1 – “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”

NOTICE: The evidence that you are using faith...you have not seen it yet with your human eyes. (Note, the importance of seeing with your spirit.)

BELOVED: If you have it...faith isn't needed.

THEREFORE: God isn't telling us that we will never see what we are believing for, in faith. That is silly. Hebrews 11 continues to tell us that faith brings the unseen into the seen.

The Lord told me that FAITH is the currency of Heaven. If you want something that you don't currently have...you just need to accumulate enough FAITH to receive it...when your FAITH gets to the right level, your manifestation will arrive.

VERY IMPORTANT: Christians are supposed to live life by faith...therefore, ***we must always be believing God for MORE...greater...NOT drawing back...***

UNDERSTAND: Not just going from emergency to emergency...but from glory to glory (2 Corinthians 3:18).

What Are You Asking For

Here is the issue with weak or small faith...it will affect your ASKING.

“Ask” – request, require, demand

NOT as much of a begging, but a need that you put a demand on.

Matthew 7:7,8

7 Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:

8 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

We are told to ask from God...I mean Jesus tells us to do it a lot!

But what we end up doing, when our faith is small or weak is spend our time asking for small things... things that don't even need faith. I mean we could ask the person next to us and it would be accomplished...ask our boss for a couple overtime hours and it would be accomplished.

There is something that we are forgetting in our Christian walk.

Matthew 7:11 – “If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?”

OUR HEAVENLY FATHER desires to give BIG to His kids.

NOTICE: vs. 11 is in direct relationship with verses 7 and 8!

Ephesians 3:20 – “Now unto him that is **able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think**, according to the power that worketh in us.”

God has NO LIMITS and HE IS A FATHER Who loves to give to His kids...and His kids keep limiting Him (Psalm 78:41).

ILLUSTRATION: Jerry Savelle was doing missions work in Africa (orphanages, medical clinics, training pastors, building wells, etc.). In the early days, when he was first getting started Oral Roberts heard about what Jerry was doing and wanted to go to Africa with him to see his vision and plans.

So Jerry took Oral Roberts to Africa.

One of the first meetings they had was to open a medical clinic in Kenya. The President of Kenya was speaking at the podium and Jerry and Oral Roberts were sitting behind him listening.

As they were listening, Oral Roberts grabbed a napkin off the table and wrote something and handed it to Jerry. It was gibberish...Jerry gave it back to Oral Roberts and he said, “No read it.” Confused,

Jerry tried to sound it out: **STREBOR LARO**...Jerry said, “I don’t understand what this means.”

Oral Roberts said, “It is Oral Roberts spelled backwards.”

Obviously, Jerry was confused again and asked, “Why?”

Oral Roberts said, “Because I am bored by their small thinking! I am bored by your small plans.”

YOU may think that was mean...but it charged Jerry to plan big...ask big and not settle for less.

BELOVED: The question I want ask us this morning...is our Heavenly Father bored by our plans? By what we are asking for?

REMEMBER: He is more than able!

ILLUSTRATION: I heard a story about Tony Robbins (the motivational speaker) following one of his speeches. He left to go home and he saw a homeless man begging, asking for spare change. Tony Robbins took out three one hundred dollar bills and a couple coins. The man looked at him, looked at the money...took the coins: a.) because that was what he asked for, b.) that was what he thought he was worth.

Week Two Insert

Last week, I shared with you that we (at Grace Fellowship of Morehead) can’t just ask for our bills to be paid...or that the seats in this sanctuary are more full...or that our building is repaired.

The Lord has given me a vision for cities...churches...buildings.

HOWEVER: Often in the midst of the “trying to get bills paid” and “seats full” and “repairs done”...we forget to ask or speak those bigger visions into being.

SO THIS WEEK SHOWS UP: I am spending time listening to the Holy Spirit about this area...ASKING BIG!

He leads me to this verse:

Psalm 2:8 – “**Ask of me**, and I **shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance**, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession.”

“Heathen” – vs. 1 – they rage...vs. 2 – they have kings
Yes, dealing with nations.

DEFINITION: nations, people, swarms (locusts).

God spoke to me: He doesn't just want to give us Morehead...He wants to give us the NATIONS! He wants to give us SWARMS of people (not just some seats full).

HOWEVER: What is the key? Asking!

You have not because you ask not! (James 4:2)

HERE IS THE ISSUE: We raise questions...how can this be? How can this happen? My best years are gone...my best sermons have been written...my best songs have been song...etc.

How can this be?

BELOVED: You are not the first to ask this question.

MARY asked it in Luke 1 – her situation seemed impossible (was impossible).

NICODEMUS in John 3 – how can you be born again? Vs. 9 – How can this be?

ABRAM in Genesis 15 brought a similar question: “What do you give me seeing I go childless?” In other words, I know your promises...but how can that happen?

SARAH asked it in Genesis 18: “Am I gonna have a child when I am old? How can that be?”

ZACHARIUS asked in Luke 1:18: “How? How will I know this? How will it come to pass?”

Those last two were corrected for asking it...but the answer is simply this...

God can do in a **MOMENT** what it would normally take a lifetime to accomplish.

JOSEPH could have spent his time asking **WHY** and **HOW**...but he woke up one morning in the prison and went to sleep in the palace.

DAVID could have spent his time wondering **HOW** can a shepherd boy become king...but he woke up one morning tending sheep, and went to sleep tired, because he just killed a giant and liberated Israel.

PAUL'S life completely changed in 24 hours.

Think about the **CHILDREN OF ISRAEL** in the wilderness...how often did they get thirsty, hungry, frustrated...and instead of asking, they couldn't figure out how the water would come...how the food would come...so they **COMPLAINED**. Moses **ASKED**...God provided.

~ They woke up thirsty...went to bed well watered.

~ They woke up hungry...went to bed full.

~ They woke up frustrated...went to bed happy!

God wants us to ASK BIG...because He wants to show off big.

Up Our Faith

If we serve a God who gives **EXCEEDINGLY ABOVE AND BEYOND** what we ask or think...than we need to up our **FAITH**, so we can **UP** or **ASKING!**

When our faith is small...our asking will **ALWAYS** be small or wrong!

THINK ON THIS: Big faith asks **BIG** things! Small faith asks small things! No faith asks for nothing!

Matthew 8:5-10 (the greatest faith)

- 5 And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto him a centurion, beseeching him,
- 6 And saying, Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented. **(he hasn't really asked...just stated a fact)**
- 7 And Jesus saith unto him, I will come and heal him. **(able and willing)**
- 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. (he put the demand on the Word)**
- 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.
- 10 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.

Mark 4:35-40 (no faith)

- 35 And the same day, when the even was come, he saith unto them, **Let us pass over unto the other side. (what Jesus was going to do)**
- 36 And when they had sent away the multitude, they took him even as he was in the ship. And there were also with him other little ships.
- 37 And there arose a great storm of wind, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full.
- 38 And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awake him, and say unto him, **Master, carest thou not that we perish?**

QUESTION: Are they asking? Speaking anything in faith? Nope!

- 39 And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.
- 40 And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith?

Where there is NO faith...there is nothing asked for!

2 Corinthians 9:6 – “But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.”

BELOVED: This is obviously talking about money...we know that...but it is also presenting a TRUTH... how you give is how you get.

So, when we ask...when we speak with our mouths...we are giving away what we are believing for.

**If you speak/ask BOUNTIFUL things...you will receive BOUNTIFUL things.
If you speak/ask SPARING things...you will receive SPARING things.**

Believe BIG...Ask BIG...Get BIG results!

BELOVED: We MUST increase our FAITH...so we can INCREASE our ASK!

UNDERSTAND: If your faith isn't growing it is decaying. If you are not using it...it is withering.

ILLUSTRATION: Think about your teeth? How many brush their teeth every day? How many have done it for years...perhaps even 20, 30, 40 years (plus)?

Probably twice a day! Well, have you done it enough? Can you stop now? You've done it long enough!

OBVIOUSLY no! The second you stop...the second your teeth starts decaying!

You gotta keep doing it.

That is what faith is like...just because you have increased in faith...walked by faith for years now...the just will LIVE A LIFE of faith!

Keys to Asking

Matthew 20:29-34

- 29 And as they departed from Jericho, a great multitude followed him.
- 30 And, behold, two blind men sitting by the way side, when they heard that Jesus passed by, cried out, saying, **Have mercy on us,** O Lord, thou Son of David. **(based on covenant)**
- 31 And the multitude rebuked them, because they should hold their peace: but they cried the more, saying, Have mercy on us, O Lord, thou Son of David.
- 32 And Jesus stood still, and called them, and said, **What will ye that I shall do unto you?** (that is what God is asking to you)
- 33 They say unto him, **Lord, that our eyes may be opened.**

FIRST: They asked clearly...and big. Not for new canes or sun glasses...but to see!

ILLUSTRATION: The blind man in Texas who came up for prayer because he was a little congested, not because he was blind.

SECONDLY: Make sure your ASK is lined up with the Word and backed by covenant.

1 John 5:14,15

14 And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we **ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us:**

15 And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.

His WORD is His WILL!

James 4:3 tells us the main problem is that too many ask wrong...because they want to consume it on their flesh.

THIRDLY: Very important...make sure your ASK lines up with your SEED.

If you are sowing for ONE STALK of corn...don't think you will receive the whole field.

If you are NOT sowing to good soil...don't think you will receive any harvest.

There are a lot of people who ASK big, but are not sowing anything.

Luke 6:38 – “Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.

Galatians 6:7 – “Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.”

FOURTH: It will always take FAITH.

Which means if you can do it without God...it is not BIG enough!

ILLUSTRATION: I believe it was Brother Hagin who had a man come up to him and ask him why his prayer hadn't been answered. He said, “I have asked...sowed...over and over again and it isn't happening.”

Brother Hagin looked at him and said, “Well, you think that God will answer every prayer you pray?” (said it in a sarcastic manner)

The man replied, “Well, I guess not.”

Brother Hagin said, “Well, that is why you are not seeing your answer.”

Speak it done...act like it is done...quit fretting over it...get happy!

FIFTH: Ask in Jesus' name!

His name gives us RIGHTS and ACCESS to all that heaven has!

John 14:13 – “And **whatsoever ye shall ask in my name**, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.”

John 14:14 – “**If ye shall ask any thing in my name**, I will do it.”

John 15:16 – “Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that **whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.**”

John 16:23 – “And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, **Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you.**”

John 16:24 – “**Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.**”

John 16:26 – “At that day **ye shall ask in my name:** and I say not unto you, that I will pray the Father for you.”

SIXTH: Most often your ANSWER comes in the form of OBEDIENCE.
James 2 – Faith without works is dead!

Conclusion

ILLUSTRATION: Jessi Duplantis was visiting his daughter, Jodi, to see her new house. She was so proud of it and wanted her parents to see it. They walked in and noticed it was beautiful, but it was empty. Jodi said, “You wanna see the rug I have picked out for our living room?” She showed it to them and said they were saving up to buy it (\$2000). Jessi said, “Let your mom and I buy it for you as a house warming gift.” She said, “Oh no! That is not why I am showing it to you.” So, they left.

They came back a couple months later and noticed nothing had changed, except they had some blinds on the windows. Jessi asked, “Are you going to get some drapes for the windows?” She said, “yes” and then started showing him the material that she was going to buy...but it was expensive. Jessi said, “Let your mom and I take care of the drapes for you...we want to bless you.” She said, “Oh no...that is not why I showed them to you.”

NOTICE: She is not putting any kind of demand on her dad...even though he is offering to give to her. Finally, a couple years later, Jessi is driving in the car with Jodi (her car) and thought, “How much do you still owe on your car?” She said, “\$20,000”...Jessi said, “What bank is it through?” It was across town...so he said, “Let’s go pay it off!”

Her answer, “Daddy, let the Lord lead you!” In a couple minutes her car was totally paid for (she put a demand on dad’s offer).

Then she said, “Daddy, is that curtain and rug still on the table?”

The supply was waiting for her the whole time...she just had to take limiting off.

***We serve a God of the promises...yes and amen!
We serve a God who is MORE than able.
He is just waiting for us to BELIEVE enough to ASK Big!***