

FAITH THAT WORKS

The power of the Holy Spirit is present in all Spirit filled people... however, faith is the only medium by which any of the power can be accessed. The bible gives us some perfect examples of the underlying attitudes that produce faith that works. It is interesting that the process of applying faith applies equally to all people, spirit filled or not. The advantage of having the Holy Spirit is simple... it takes faith to receive it and it takes the same type of faith to use it... all spirit filled people have already accessed the Spirit and thus have a proven ability to use it... it doesn't get any more complex than that!!

The following bible examples reveal faith that works and the underlying attitudes that are successful.

MAT 8:5 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. **7** And Jesus saith unto him, I will come and heal him.

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. *This man knew the link between authority and power... he knew how to come before God.*

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.** *Consider what he didn't do (no striving, no external or emotional props), yet still got the best result.*

MAT 15:22 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.

23 But he answered her not a word. And his disciples came and besought him, saying, Send her away; for she crieth after us.

24 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.

26 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.

28 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. *A clear mind and unwavering purpose... she came boldly before the Lord.*

LUK 5:17 And it came to pass on a certain day, as he was teaching, that there were Pharisees and doctors of the law sitting by, which were come out of every town of Galilee, and Judaea, and Jerusalem: and the power of the Lord was *present* to heal them.

18 And, behold, men brought in a bed a man which was taken with a palsy: and they sought *means* to bring him in, and to lay *him* before him. *Overcoming obstacles is a necessity... work around problems.*

19 And when they could not find by what *way* they might bring him in because of the multitude, they went upon the housetop, and let him down through the tiling with *his* couch into the midst before Jesus.

20 And when **he saw their faith**, he said unto him, Man, thy sins are forgiven thee. *God makes a way.*

LUK 8:43 And a woman having an issue of blood twelve years, which had spent all her living upon physicians, neither could be healed of any,

44 Came behind *him*, and touched the border of his garment: and immediately her issue of blood stancheth.

45 And Jesus said, Who touched me? When all denied, Peter and they that were with him said, Master, the multitude throng thee and press *thee*, and sayest thou, Who touched me?

46 And Jesus said, Somebody hath touched me: for I perceive that virtue is gone out of me.

47 And when the woman saw that she was not hid, she came trembling, and falling down before him, she declared unto him before all the people for what cause she had touched him, and how she was healed immediately. *Again, we see singleness of heart and a willingness to keep trying... God opens doors.*

48 And he said unto her, Daughter, be of good comfort: **thy faith hath made thee whole;** go in peace.

LUK 18:9 And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others:

10 Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican.

11 The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men *are*, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican.

12 I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess. *Faith cannot be earned by outward demonstrations.*

13 And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as *his* eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner. *A 'no thrills' approach gets the results again.*

14 I tell you, this man went down to his house justified *rather* than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted. *Acts of faith are independent of outward show... they come from inward assurance.*

Some bible tips that help build faith and keep it.

JAM 5:15 And the prayer of **faith** shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him. *The prayer of faith is a prayer of assurance and commitment... a prayer that relies on truth, not show.*

JAM 2:26 For as the body without the spirit is dead, so **faith** without works is dead also. *The above verses have given us an insight as to what God regards as acts of faith, rather than our deeds.*

ROM 10:17 So then **faith** cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. *Knowledge and truth build faith and hope.*

MAR 9:24 And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief. *If all else fails, God will still respond to a simple and humble request... that is all he ever wanted in the first place.*