

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF PROGRESS VILLAGE
I Really Want To Change...So, Help Me God

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Course Outline

Section III: The Power to Change

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4/26 9. The Power of Faith ←
5/3 10. The Power of Biblical Friendships

April 26, 2023 - Section III: The Power to Change - The Power of Faith

We experience change personally only when we exercise our faith in the truth of God's Word; knowledge of the Word by itself is not enough.

I. Importance of the Power of Faith

James 2:14-18 *What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him? If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit? Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone. Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works.*

A. _____ is staking your life and happiness on God's _____, withholding nothing, accepting Him completely.

Romans 8:8 *So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.*

B. Living Like Christ is not difficult, It's _____. (on our own)

Romans 8:9 *But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.*

C. Just because we are not **PERFECT**, does not mean we cannot be made _____.

Romans 8:10-11 *And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.*

D. The **POWER** to **CHANGE** comes to us from God's Spirit.

II. _____ the Power of God within me.

A. **FAITH** is the switch that _____ on the power of the Holy Spirit.

Hebrews 4:1-12 *10 For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his. Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief. For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*

B. Every _____ thing God wants to give you comes through **FAITH** in His Word.

Hebrews 11:1-34 (ASV) *Now faith is assurance of things hoped for, a conviction of things not seen. For therein the elders had witness borne to them. By faith we understand that the worlds have been framed by the word of God, so that what is seen hath not been made out of things which appear. ...4 By faith Abel ...5 By faith Enoch ...6 And without faith it is impossible to be well-pleasing unto him; for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that seek after him. 7 By faith Noah... 8 By faith Abraham... 11 By faith even Sarah herself received power to conceive seed when she was past age, since she counted him faithful who had promised: 13 These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.*

17 By faith Abraham...20 By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau...21 By faith Jacob...22 By faith Joseph, 23 By faith Moses...31 By faith Rahab the harlot perished not with them that were disobedient...32 And what shall I more say? for the time will fail me if I tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah; of David and Samuel and the prophets:

C. Faith is about _____ you are facing.

True Bible faith is **confident obedience** to God's Word in spite of circumstances and consequences.

III. Faith is not a **PART** of my Christian life, it is my _____ Christian existence.

Faith: a. Believing the Word of God, and (God said it and that settles it, not on the fence)
b. acting upon it,
c. no matter how I feel,
d. because God promises a good result.

IV. How can I **Increase** my faith?

1. **Believe** that it can increase. (Peter's Experiences)

Acts 5:12-16 *And by the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people; (and they were all with one accord in Solomon's porch. And of the rest durst no man join himself to them: but the people magnified them. And believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women.) Insomuch that they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and couches, that at the least the shadow of Peter passing by might overshadow some of them. There came also a multitude out of the cities round about unto Jerusalem, bringing sick folks, and them which were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed every one.*

2. Expose your **MIND** to God's Word.

Romans 10:17 *So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*

Read it, study it, memorize it, meditate on it.

3. Practice genuine **PRAYER**.

Philippians 4:19 *But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.*

Psalms 84:11 *For the LORD God is a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.*

Joshua 1:8 *This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.*

SELF-REFLECTION

Why is God's Word powerful in resisting the Enemy, when our words are not? Can you give a personal example?

3 Day Challenge: Philippians 4:19 , Psalm 84:11 , Joshua 1:8