

1 John 5:4 | Faith Builders: Supplements for Spiritual Energy 3-Faith Fellowship Supplement

Announce:

1. Youth Discipleship: Broomball and costume party tonight! As you leave tonight Amy Lathen will be outside for information on each youth
2. Discipleship packets
3. Road Map, Nov 14th 6:30-9pm

Tonight, after The Road, I want to have a Q/A time for the church

So, how do we Build up our Faith?

- It's similar to how we build up and maintain our physical body with vitamin supplements. Your body needs certain vitamins and enzymes to be strong
 - Daily spiritual vitamins that boost our immune system
 - Strengthen our fleshly sinful antibodies
 - Develop spiritual muscles
 - Building up a strong heart
 - "Building wholehearted disciples of Jesus"
- I want to talk about "Faith supplements" that will build up your heart
- Spiritual homeopathics

1 John 5:4

For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.

Review the past few weeks:

1) “Rhema Word Supplement.” God’s Word builds up our Faith. It is the Vitamin C of Faith...

- P,B, and J—Prayer, Bible, and Journal

2) “Spirit Prayer Supplement” Praying in the Spirit builds up our Faith

Three aspects of “praying in the Spirit?”

1) Praying in the Spirit is Jesus prompting us and praying through us in our weakness (Rom 8:26-28)

2) Praying in the Spirit can be through an Unknown Tongue, a Prayer Language that the Spirit supernaturally gives you

1 Cor. 14: 2

For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands him; however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries.

1 Cor 14:14

For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful. What is the conclusion then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding.

3) Praying in the Spirit is the prayer of intimacy, coming close to your father

Romans 8:15

For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, “Abba, Father.”¹

¹ *The New King James Version*. 1982 (Ro 8:15). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

Mark 5:35

While He was still speaking, *some* came from the ruler of the synagogue's *house* who said, "Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the Teacher any further?"

36 As soon as Jesus heard the word that was spoken, He said to the ruler of the synagogue, "Do not be afraid; only believe." 37 And He permitted no one to follow Him except Peter, James, and John the brother of James. ²

3rd Faith Supplement: "Friendship Supplement" we absolutely must be around, hang out with, faith-building people

Connection is why we are here—it's what makes life worth living

- The ability to feel connected is why we are here!
- We are hard-wired for relationships
- The first book of the Bible, God says to man, "it is not good for man to be alone" We need relations that grow our faith
- God put us in families. Our families should be "Faith-Families"
- Jesus began his ministry, his public ministry, by choosing 12 disciples
- Jesus wanted friends and comrades—a kind of band of brothers
- Jesus sent out his men 2x2
- God gave us the church as "the body of Christ"

² *The New King James Version*. 1982 (Mk 5:35–37). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

- We are wired for relationships—connectivity
 - The big unnamed thing—that thing that unravels connection—it’s shame!
 - Shame is the fear of disconnection. We all think, “Is there something about me that if people see it I won’t be worthy of connection?” No one wants to talk about it and the less you talk about it, the more you have it. It’s universal. All of us have it.

There are two kinds of People in this World:

1. Faith builders

2. Faith busters

- Faith busters are like Hoover vacuums to your heart—they always have a complaint, another point of view, another thought that sucks out your faith

- Characteristics of Faith Busters:

- After being with these people, you are less inclined to trust God with your life
- After being around these people you feel discouraged and down
- After being around such people you start questioning your faith and your dreams

Even Jesus needed faith builders in his life. He took along with him faith-building people

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believe.” 37 And He permitted no one to follow Him except Peter, James, and John the brother of James. ³

- Jesus brings along with him, men of faith! Men who could believe. Evidently, even among his disciples there were men who did not have the same levels of faith...
- If you want to be used by God, to be all that God has created you to be, surround yourself with men and women of faith
- Faith busters can kill your dreams; faith builders can help you birth your dreams
- **1 Thess 5:11 Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing. ⁴**
- What kind of people are you hanging out with? Five questions to consider:
 1. Do they encourage me to grow in my faith?
 2. Do they strengthen my commitment to being a Jesus disciple?
 3. Are they passionate for the kingdom of God?
 4. After being with them, do I feel more excited and have more vision for being a Jesus disciple?
 5. When problems arise do they challenge me to seek God about it?
- If you couldn't answer yes to all the above, you are not hanging out with the right people
- None of us were made to be loners. The Proverbs say,

**As iron sharpens iron,
So a man sharpens the countenance of his friend. ⁵**

³ *The New King James Version*. 1982 (Mk 5:35–37). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

⁴ *The Holy Bible: English Standard Version*. 2001 (1 Th 5:11). Wheaton: Standard Bible Society.

⁵ *The New King James Version*. 1982 (Pr 27:17). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

**He who walks with wise *men* will be wise,
But the companion of fools will be destroyed.⁶**

- Other people give us vision for our life. After writing about the “men of faith,” the writer of Hebrews says...

- **Hebrews 12**

Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares *us*, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

All of us need mentors in our life—this is why we have D Groups and C Groups...



Ex. Liz and I absolutely could not have planted The Road without each of you. During the 40 nights of prayer, during the struggles of the transition we were on, nothing has been easy and we have

⁶ *The New King James Version*. 1982 (Pr 13:20). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

needed you guys...