



Empowering People to Change the World

Faith Builders V: Jesus Focus

Steve Holt

1 John 5:4 | Supplements for New Spiritual Energy 5-Jesus Focus Supplement

Announce:

Youth:

Nov. 15th, 8pm

D-groups at Borchert's

2965 Royal Pine Drive

Make sure the kids bring their journals!

Nov. 22nd, 10am (no evening meeting)

Sports at the Park

Black Forest Regional Park

Bring any footballs, soccer balls, frisbees, etc. that your family owns

Social afterwards in the lobby

- I want to talk about “Faith supplements” that will build up your heart
- Spiritual homeopathics—I believe that every Jesus Disciple has the energy and power for supernatural faith. I believe that because Jesus said it again and again...
 - **Mark 4:20** But these are the ones sown on good ground, those who hear the word, accept *it*, and bear fruit: some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some a hundred.”
 - **Mark 5:34** And He said to her, “Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace, and be healed of your affliction.”

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. ¹

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

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

- 3) “Faith Fellowship Supplement” meaning that we absolutely must hang out with faith building people. Two kinds of people in this world: 1) Faith Busters, and 2) Faith Builders**

- 4) “Active Obedience Supplement” an obedience that acts on what God is telling you to do**

- 5) Tonight, the most important supplement, I even hesitate to call it a supplement, for this is life/death, hope/despair...this is water! Living water! It’s the “Jesus Focus Supplement” Jesus is the author and perfecter of your faith. Only through a focus on him can you grow in your faith year after year**
 - Many entrepreneurs have faith and start successful companies

 - Many athletes have faith in their skills and are successful in their sport

 - But I’m talking about LIFE! I’m talking about your HEART! Life in your heart

¹ *The New King James Version*. 1982 (1 Jn 5:4). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

- Only Jesus knows what your heart needs—the food of the soul, the food that bring life to your heart
- Courage, tenacity, fierce faith! Multiplying your impact 30, 60, and 100 times. You are called by God to multiplication! The first command in scripture—*Be fruitful and multiply*

Heb 12:1

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, 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.²

- We can only endure in our faith, we can only live a life of continual reproduction—30, 60, and 100 fold increase through focusing on Jesus
- If you focus on your job, you will languish and your heart will die
- If you focus on security and finances as your main goal in life, your heart will atrophy, your joy will flame out
- If you focus on sin management on “not sinning,” your life will become legalistic, hard, and driven
- If you focus on Jesus, his life, his heart, his passion, his love, his grace, how he treated people, who he loved, who he hung out with, your faith will grow
- If you focus on Jesus, if you make him your pleasure, your worship, your passion, you will find new life!
- Coming on our website...

² *The New King James Version*. 1982 (Heb 12:1–2). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

“Jesus Disciples”

The Road is the road to Jesus. We are all about Jesus. We worship Jesus, we seek Jesus, we love Jesus, we live for Jesus. Jesus is the source of our love, power, forgiveness, and purpose. Without Jesus there is no reason to exist. Jesus gives us life, Jesus produces fruit from our lives, Jesus leads and guides us. The Road exists to build Jesus disciples.

Saint Irenaeus once said, “The glory of God is man fully alive.” The Jesus disciple is one whose heart is fully alive with the love and power of Christ. When Jesus touches us—we see where we once were blind, we walk where we once were lame, we hear where we once were deaf. Only when we choose to follow Jesus wholeheartedly does our heart come alive.

Jesus said, “I came that they might have life, and have it abundantly.” That’s the offer to the Jesus disciple. Follow Christ and he promises an abundant, fruitful, joyful life. This is a life full of freedom, wholeness, and a heart fully alive.

At *The Road*, we are building men, women, and children into wholehearted disciples of Jesus!

- Jesus is the only one who can make our hearts come fully alive—faith is the adventure of the heart
- I am enthralled by Jesus—the most brilliant man who has ever lived. A genius who understands our longings of the heart
- Jesus is the Author *and* Perfector of our faith!
- We do get discouraged in our souls but the writer of Hebrews continues...
- **Vs. 3 For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls.**³

³ *The New King James Version*. 1982 (Heb 12:3). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

- Look to Jesus! Look at Jesus! Meditate on Jesus. Focus on Jesus
- Make a fresh study of Jesus
- Often in modern day Christianity we have come to believe that receiving Christ as our savior is the end all. We just give our hearts to Christ and then kind of wait around for heaven. We associate eternal life with heaven. We will be up in this place and sing all day, for 10,000 years. Sounds awful
- Eternal life actually doesn't mean heaven. It means "a never ending life." You now have the life—you have the never ending life of the heart of Jesus pumping within you
- Some people are living suicidal lives—what I mean is that they are just kind of waiting for death to come, not really living life. Live your life with Jesus.
- Jesus said of being a disciple, Jesus said it this way, **"If you don't go all the way with me, through thick and thin, you don't deserve me. If your first concern is to look after yourself, you'll never find yourself. But if you forget about yourself and look to me, you'll find both yourself and me."**⁴

G. K. Chesterton said it this way: *Courage is almost a contradiction in terms. It means a strong desire to live taking the form of a readiness to die. "He that will lose his life, the same shall save it" is not a piece of mysticism for saints and heroes. It is a piece of everyday advice for sailors or mountaineers. It might be printed in an Alpine guide or a drill book. The paradox is the whole principle of courage; even of quite earthly or quite brutal courage. A man cut off by the sea may save his life if he will risk it on the precipice. He can only get away from death by continually stepping within an inch of it. A soldier surrounded by enemies, if he is to cut his way out, needs to combine a*

⁴ Peterson, E. H. (2005). *The Message: The Bible in contemporary language* (Mt 10:38–39). Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress.

strong desire for living with a strange carelessness about dying. He must not merely cling to life, for then he will be a coward, and will not escape. He must not merely wait for death, for then he will be a suicide, and will not escape. He must seek his life in a spirit of furious indifference to it; he must desire life like water and yet drink death like wine.

- It takes courage to be a Jesus disciple, to follow after him. This takes great courage
- Nike has a slogan, “No Fear” but they have no idea the importance of that statement
- Most of us make our primary decisions based on fear—not faith. When we set our minds on Christ, think on him, pray to him, think about him, our fears can melt away

How we Fix our Eyes on Jesus?

1) Guard your heart

- Keep your heart with all diligence,
For out of it *spring* the issues of life.⁵
- Love God with all your heart...”
- Watch over the issues of you heart—what enters your heart
- Listen to your heart

2) Intimacy through a relationship

- Dialogue with Jesus daily, learning to hear His voice for you
- He speaks in so many ways: impressions, visions, dreams, people, Bible...

3) Worship is what you focus on—love and study Jesus

⁵ *The New King James Version*. 1982 (Pr 4:23). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

- Read the Gospels, spend time asking questions about how Jesus lived, how he responded to people
- Worship Him in song
- Worship Him in your interaction with people