



Empowering People to Change the World

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**Partnering with the Holy Spirit Through Action Faith**

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## Partnering with the Holy Spirit through Action Faith

***God can move mountains in my life  
I am building up my faith with God's Holy Word  
I am coming alive in the power of the Holy Spirit  
With Jesus, all things are possible***

- If you have been with us the past week and our evening meetings, we have been talking about a partnership with the Holy Spirit.
- We have studied through John 15 together.
- Faith is such a key part of God's prosperity plan for our lives.
- **Romans 10:17** *"Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God."*
- My last message dealt with the power of meditating in God's Word.

### How many of you have troubles in your life?

- Our response to troubles is either Fear or Faith.
- Today I want to talk about activating your faith. Do you know that faith without action is just a Wish?
- I have entitled this **Action Faith** because we have such a misunderstanding of faith. We view it in the West as intellectual and not action.
- Biblical Faith always means Action! OR it's not faith, it's just wishful thinking.
- At The Road, we are not into wishful thinking but Action Faith!!

### Two Kinds of Faith

## **Romans 10:9-10**

***<sup>9</sup> that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.***

***<sup>10</sup> For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.***

## **This is Saving Faith**

**But God wants us to keep on in the way we got started. With a life of faith throughout our lives.**

## **2 Corinthians 5:7**

***For we walk by faith, not by sight.***

**2) Sanctification Faith. I am going to call this Action Faith!**

## **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, <sup>2</sup> looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith,**

- Faith is not by sight; it is an action we take even when we cannot see the outcome.
- Faith is how we victoriously live out the race set before us.
- All of you have a race to run and you will either lose or win the race.
- I believe all of you are winners in God's sight.

**God always honors Action Faith! Faith is most Tested in Times of Trouble**

## **John 4:46-53**

### **Vs. 46-47**

***<sup>46</sup> So Jesus came again to Cana of Galilee where He had made the water wine. And there was a certain nobleman whose son was sick at Capernaum. <sup>47</sup> When he heard that Jesus had come out of Judea into Galilee, he went to Him and implored Him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death.***

- Faith is activated through trouble! This nobleman has a problem—his son is sick.
- We might surmise that this was a sickness that was very severe, maybe even unto death. There would have been doctors in the area and I am quite sure he had sought their help.
- But this man has traveled 16 miles to reach Jesus. This was not easy at the time. We do not know his transportation but it might have taken a whole day to get there.
- This man is desperate!
- Note that this man is a nobleman and he would have had access to all kinds of help from others—doctors, medicine and advice from the medical community.
- But he came to Jesus and he is begging for help.

### **Faith is Asking (Jesus for Help!)**

- It takes humility to walk or ride 16 miles, find Jesus and beg him for help.
- Vs 47 says he “implored him” which means to beg of him. It can also mean “to pray.”
- It is the same word used of the woman of Canaan and cried out to him to heal her demon possessed daughter in Matthew 15.
  - It is very interesting what Jesus does with her. He reminds her that she is a gentile and He has come to minister to the Jews.
  - But she will not stop crying out for Him to move in a mighty way to deliver her daughter.
  - But it seems like Jesus is putting her off but she will not take no for an answer!
- Look what Jesus does here:

**Vs. 48-49**

***48 Then Jesus said to him, “Unless you people see signs and wonders, you will by no means believe.”***

***49 The nobleman said to Him, “Sir, come down before my child dies!”***

- Again, it is like Jesus does not immediately answer but seems to be put off by the man’s request.
- That is what He did with the gentile woman. Jesus is testing her; Jesus is testing him.
- But this man has an Action Faith! He knows that Jesus is the answer to his problem.
- He knows that he is doomed without Jesus showing up!
- Desperation is the mother of faith!
- Faith or fear! Desperation can birth Action Faith.

**Vs. 50**

***50 Jesus said to him, “Go your way; your son lives.” So the man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him, and he went his way.***

**Faith is Believing (what Jesus tells him to do!)**

- I love this! This is the essential point to Action Faith.
- “the man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him”
- Jesus said to the gentile woman “great is your faith! Let it be done to you as you desire.”
- Jesus always honors Action Faith. The action of asking; the action of believing.
- True Faith always Acts! Faith that does not Act is a Wish!

- This man believed the word!
- We do not have Jesus in the flesh today, but we still have His Word! When we believe God’s Word, He moves and acts.
- There are two words used for “word” in the Bible:
  - The first and most commonly used is the Greek word Logos and it means the written or spoken word. It is used to describe the words on the page. When you are reading God’s Word you are reading the logos word.
  - But there is a second word used, and it is the word Rhema. And we might simply say it is the speaking word. Words uttered by a living voice.
  - I like to call it “the revelation word uniquely given to you.”
  - It is when the written word becomes the spoken word for you specifically.
  - Jesus speaks directly to this man and tells him what He is going to do and the man believes!
- You must be in the Word to get a Word from God! God speaks to those who are in His Word.
- Faith comes by hearing! Hearing is for those who are listening. We are listening as we read!

**Vs. 51**

***<sup>51</sup> And as he was now going down, his servants met him and told him, saying, “Your son lives!”***

**Faith is Acting (on what we are told to do)**

- The man is not begging anymore. He is not asking anymore.

- He acts on what Jesus has told him before he knows what is going to happen.
- Faith is action packed! Faith involves us taking Jesus at His Word and acting upon it.

Action Faith is:

- Asking
- Believing
- Acting

### **Vs. 52-53**

***<sup>52</sup> Then he inquired of them the hour when he got better. And they said to him, “Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him.”<sup>53</sup> So the father knew that it was at the same hour in which Jesus said to him, “Your son lives.” And he himself believed, and his whole household.***

### **Faith is Receiving (what you have asked for)**

- Hebrews 11 explains faith to us

***Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. <sup>2</sup> For by it the elders obtained a good testimony.***

***<sup>3</sup> By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.***

- Substance means “standing under” and was a technical term for a “title deed.” The root idea is that of standing under the claim to the property to support its validity.
- Faith is the title deed of something you are hoping for. It is an assurance that you have it. You own it. It is yours now.

- It is you, holding up the title deed to a claim you have on something and saying “This is mine. I have authority. I own this and you cannot take it away.”
  - It is holding up God’s title deed over your marriage and saying this is mine. Nothing is going to ruin my marriage! I have God’s Title Deed over this marriage. We will use our faith to battle and fight for our marriage!
  - I may not see how this is going to work out but I am choosing to believe God not man!
  - We walk by faith not by sight!
  - That is how you get a “good testimony.” Testimony has TEST in it; you will be tested.
  - Action Faith is what gets us through into victory!
- You stand on your faith! You stand on what God has said to you:
  - not what circumstances say to you.
  - not what ungodly people say to you.
  - not what your feelings say to you.

But we are not done yet...

### **Vs. 53b**

#### ***“And he himself believed, and his whole household”***

- When you put your faith into action, people notice! You impact so many others when you activate your faith.

#### **Action Faith is:**

- **Asking**
- **Believing**
- **Acting**
- **Receiving**

**Everyone say that!**