



FAITH PRINCIPLES

Strong For Life

THE FOUNDATIONS-FOR-LIFE SERIES
VOLUME 9

The Foundations-For-Life Series by Rachel Burchfield
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The Foundations-For-Life series was written originally to support young adults in their commitment to follow Jesus Christ. The first workbook, The Adventures of Following Jesus, was written in 1994 exclusively for the students of Texas Bible Institute. Each of the remaining nine workbooks also teach timeless truths and provide answers found in God's Word, the Holy Bible. TBI is an outreach of Burchfield Ministries International, Inc. in Columbus, Texas.

After thirty years of serving as TBI's President, Rachel Burchfield has revised her time-proven Foundations-For-Life series to equip all ages. Teens and adults can now become Strong In Life through TBI's Distance Learning Program, while the On Campus option still remains an option exclusively for 17 - 25 years of age.

The overall objective of the Foundations-For-Life series is to:

- Make unshakeable disciples for Jesus Christ
- Create a love for the inspired Word of God
- Introduce the adventures of being a bold Bible believer

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Statement of Faith

Burchfield Ministries International, Inc. believes in the inspiration of Scripture which reveals the Fatherhood of a Creator God, eternal life found only in His Son, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in every believer for guidance, comfort, and strength. To review BMI's complete Statement of Faith, visit burchfield.org.



FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT



1983

*Dear Sons and Daughters,
Welcome to the great adventure of following Jesus Christ!*

We are proud that you have chosen to build your life on God's unchanging Word. The decisions you are making during these treasured TBI months will determine the course of your life, family, and future legacy. Pastor Tommy and I both made those same choices fifty years ago!

This "Foundations-For-Life" curriculum was written exclusively for our dear Texas Bible Institute students. Thousands of TBI Alumni from thirty-nine states and forty-two nations are now "Strong For Life" and fulfilling God's purpose for their lives. Now, it's your turn!

Building strong foundations occurs when you accept the inspired Word of God as the final authority in your life. Once you learn that the Bible is a living love letter from your Father, it will become a joy. Settle it forever that God is good, His ways are perfect, and miracles still happen.

So, dear one, read and re-read this workbook until you've "made it your own." As you mature in Christ, these writings will serve as reference manuals for your own miracle moments, and you'll be Strong For Life.

In His Joy,

Pastors Tommy and Rachel Burchfield

Founder and President, Texas Bible Institute

"For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ." 1 Cor. 3:11



2003



2020

WHAT WE BELIEVE

GOD IS
OUR FATHER



As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear Him. *Psalms 103:13*

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort...

II Corinthians 1:3

JESUS CHRIST IS
OUR SAVIOR



For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. *John 3:16*

I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. *John 14:6*

THE HOLY SPIRIT
EQUIPS BELIEVERS



However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth. *John 16:13*

But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you shall be witnesses to Me... to the end of the earth. *Acts 1:8*

THE HOLY BIBLE
CAN BE TRUSTED



Jesus said, "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away." *Matthew 24:35*

All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness. *II Timothy 3:16*

Reading scripture aloud enhances comprehension
For a complete BMI Statement of Faith, visit burchfield.org.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Chapter 1	What Is Faith?	1
	• <i>Tools for Your Tool Box</i>	4
	• <i>Six Descriptions of Faith</i>	5
	• <i>Devotional - Faith Promises About Eternal Life</i>	8
Chapter 2	How Faith Works	9
	• <i>God Creates Through the Spoken Word</i>	11
	• <i>Two Types of Confession</i>	12
	• <i>Devotional - Faith Promises For Forgiveness</i>	16
Chapter 3	Faith Pleases God	17
	• <i>Recognizing a Rhema Word</i>	20
	• <i>The Miracle of Seed-Faith</i>	21
	• <i>Devotional - Faith Promises For Guidance</i>	24
Chapter 4	Faith Is Now	25
	• <i>Two Kinds of Knowledge</i>	27
	• <i>Acting on the Word</i>	30
	• <i>Devotional - Faith Promises For Protection</i>	32
Chapter 5	The World-Ruled Mind	33
	• <i>Two Types of Christians</i>	35
	• <i>Renew Your Mind</i>	38
	• <i>Devotional - Faith Promises For Your Health</i>	40
Chapter 6	Faith In A Person	41
	• <i>Consider Jesus</i>	43
	• <i>Distracted Faith</i>	45
	• <i>Devotional - Faith Promises For Your Finances</i>	47
Chapter 7	Abraham - Our Father Of Faith	48
	• <i>Faith Obeys the Call</i>	50
	• <i>You Are Abraham's Seed</i>	53
	• <i>Devotional - Faith Promises For Your Family</i>	55
Chapter 8	Expect A Miracle	56
	• <i>FAQ About Standing in Faith</i>	58
	• <i>The Miracle Worker in You</i>	61
	• <i>Devotional - Faith Promises For Your Church</i>	63
Addendum	• <i>Answer Key</i>	64
	• <i>Bible Promises</i>	65
	• <i>A Case Study on Abraham</i>	67
	• <i>Ordinary People, Extraordinary God</i>	69
	• <i>TBI World Alumni Association</i>	73
	• <i>FFL Reference Tools</i>	74
	• <i>Principles of Faith Overview</i>	79

For we walk
by faith,
not by sight.

II Cor. 5:7



Chapter 1

WHAT IS FAITH?

Everything you need *in one place*! That's the *Mall of America* in Bloomington, Minnesota; the largest mall in America. With 520 stores, 50 restaurants, and Nickelodeon Universe, you'll find everything you need for an adventure. Walking by faith is like that, too. Everything you need for a God-adventure is *in one place* - your inner man.

YOUR WORD IS TRUTH JN. 17:17

Highlight these Chapter One scriptures in your Bible

HEBREWS 11:1

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

ROMANS 4:20

He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God.

LOOKING AHEAD

- Building your muscles
- A manual for miracles
- Six descriptions

God's Word is a seed.

Reading scriptures aloud increases comprehension.

MOUNTAIN-MOVING FAITH



What more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of (those) who through faith...

- Subdued kingdoms
- Ruled with justice
- Obtained promises
- Stopped the mouths of lions
- Quenched the violence of fire
- Escaped the edge of the sword
- Out of weakness were made strong
 - Became valiant in battle
- Turned to flight the armies of the aliens
- Women received their dead to life again
 - *Heb. 11:33-35*

Faith is acting on the Word.

WHAT IS FAITH?

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." Heb. 11:1

An aunt's deathbed salvation. A tumor dissolves. Debt is canceled with no explanation. A marriage restored. Welcome to the adventure of living by faith. Faith unlocks the door to a supernatural lifestyle. You're about to learn how to operate in your Father's world, where Jesus is glorified and miracles are commonplace. These principles of faith will produce God's blessings in every area of your life. Simply put, faith is acting on the Word.

Many believers who are genuinely born again never grow in faith. They pray for faith like beggars. They don't realize they are praying for something they already have. They have allowed reason to be their guide instead of God's Word, so they are reduced to a life controlled by natural limitations and dead-end circumstances. Faith is not the product of reason. It is the product of the recreated spirit. It is born out of the Word. To those who will dare to "walk by faith, not by sight," all things are possible!

Quotes on Faith

- Faith is a spiritual force that activates the Word.
- Faith is believing and receiving God's promise, perceiving as real fact what is not experienced by the senses.
- Faith is placing an order for the transfer of goods from heaven to earth.
- Faith is the ability to accept the promise of God without any immediate, visual confirmation.
- Faith will take you where reason will not go.

Welcome To The Family

When you trusted Jesus Christ as your personal Savior and Lord, you were born again. Being born again assured you eternal life and gained you a place in the Family. You are God's child and have the heart of Your Father and the mind of Christ. When Jesus said, "I must be about My Father's business," you can sense His urgency. He knew that He was sent for a purpose. He came to reveal the Father's love and redeem humanity.

Tools For Your Toolbox

Now that you are born again, you also will sense an urgency to "be about your Father's business," but how? You probably feel inadequate to be used by God to help others. You may think, "I don't have much faith." May I share some good news with you? When you got born again, your human spirit, which was born dead in sin, became alive to God. Faith is the product of the recreated spirit. Your recreated spirit is like a toolbox. As you learn to "open it up and check the inventory," you'll discover that you already have everything you'll ever need to live for God.

Faith Is A Tool

The first tool to find in your toolbox is faith. Like a mechanic reaches for a wrench to get the job done, a believer reaches for his or her faith. Faith will always get the job done. And, although there might be several different tasks, there is only one job; to uphold the finished work of Jesus Christ. Jesus said, "It is finished,"

Jesus said, 'It is finished,' so faith says, "It is mine."

What is yours in Christ? All the promises of God!
What does that include?

- Eternal Life
- Salvation
- Healing
- Abundant life
- Purpose
- Guidance
- Strength, etc.
- Wisdom
- Everything you need to live boldly for God.

Learn what Jesus purchased for you in Foundations-for-Life Vol.4, Who We Are In Christ.

Quit praying for what you already have.



BY FAITH =
Expect a miracle!

SIX DESCRIPTIONS OF FAITH

#1 Faith Is A Muscle (Rom. 4:20)

When I was in nursing school, I memorized all seven hundred muscles in a human being. A physical therapist will tell you, "Use it or lose it," regarding the care of those muscles. The mental picture of a bodybuilder vs. a Popeye-wimp comes to my mind. Even though Popeye had the same number of muscles, he continually got a bruising because he had never developed them.

Faith is as a muscle. You can build it just like the committed body-builder eating a high-calorie, protein-rich diet and working out daily. Your faith feeds on the Word of God. (Rom. 10:17) Every time you act on the Word, your faith muscle will be strengthened. You'll become like Abraham, who was "fully persuaded that what He (God) had promised, He was able also to perform." (Rom. 4:20)

He (Abraham) staggered not at the _____ through unbelief; but was _____, giving glory to God; and being fully convinced that what He had _____ He was also able to perform. Rom. 4:20-21

#2 Faith Is A Law (Rom. 3:27)

A law is a binding rule recognized and enforced by the authority of a person or organization. For example, in America, it is the law to stop at a stop sign. We don't stop because we want to or because it's red, but because the Department of Public Safety said so. If you choose to break that law, it will cost you a fine, and they will make certain that you pay. You might attempt to cry your way out of that ticket, but the Judge will not change his mind. You broke the law, and all of the authority that the Judge represents stands behind that law.

Faith is also a law, and all of Heaven's court will stand behind it. Anywhere. Anytime. For anyone. Any age. Natural Laws vs. Faith Laws. (Gen. 17:17 vs. Rom. 4:20) Abram had to decide which law would govern him when God's promise to become a "father of nations" was given. In his case, it was the natural law of infertility vs. the Faith Law of "many descendants." He chose the Faith Law and stepped into his destiny. Settle it forever, my friend, that natural laws will not control you. Faith is a law that supersedes the natural realm every time.

Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? Of works? No, but by the _____ . Rom. 3:27

#3 Faith Is A Measure (Rom. 12:3)

When you were born again, a measure of faith was given to you. That measure can increase or decrease. For example, if you want to measure a pile of dirt, you can use a teaspoon or a shovel. Many believers want "shovels" of blessings but are living on "teaspoon" faith. Jesus referred to the concept of these measures of faith several times. He described those with:



When the Roman centurion told Jesus, "Speak the Word only," Jesus marveled at the centurion's great faith. He can marvel at your faith, too, if you learn to "speak the Word only" and not demand physical evidence of your miracles.

#4 Faith Is A Servant (Lk. 17:8)

If you are an employer, you can understand this fifth fact about faith quite easily. Every morning, you send out your employees with their tasks for the day. It makes no difference if they like you or not. They do as they are told. It makes no difference if they like their job. They do as they are told. Dear ones, faith (God's Word in your mouth) is your servant. When you send the Word out on behalf of a sick friend or a business opportunity, the Word goes out to work; and it never comes back empty-handed. The Word works every time, everywhere, for everyone. (Is. 55:10) Faith is the servant of the Word. Selah.

#5 Faith Is As A Seed (Mk. 4:14)

Jesus described your heart as a garden and His Word as a seed. In His parable titled, "The Sower," we learn about the four types of gardens (hearts) and are warned about weeds that choke the Word. Those weeds are the cares of life, the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things. Believers know that pulling those weeds from their garden of faith will allow a harvest of blessings to grow. Is there any significance that The Sower is recorded in all three of the synoptic gospels? Yes. Jesus wanted us to guard our hearts, water those faith seeds, and expect a hundred-fold return.

The sower sows the _____. Mk. 4:14

#6 Faith is a Title Deed

What is a title deed? In the legal world, there are documents required to make transactions official. A title proves legal ownership of a property, while a deed is the legal document that transfers the title to a new owner.

Let's say that your aunt whispers to you on her death bed that she wants you to have the family homestead, so you move in and make it your new home. However, after three years of memories and renovations, your cousin Joe returns from a military deployment and says, "This house is mine."

The legal world doesn't put any weight on a deathbed chat. Your aunt's words won't matter. Your feelings won't matter. Your home renovations won't matter. A judge will ask one question, "Who has the title deed?" If Joe has the title deed, he is the legal owner of your aunt's house. You can cuss and cry about it all you want, but if you don't voluntarily leave, Joe can kick you out. In a similar way, your faith is a title deed that proves you are the legal owner of all that Jesus has purchased for you.

Speaking of houses, you are now the house of God and should take inventory of what's inside. In 2008, an unnamed 57-year-old Japanese man realized he had been sharing his home with a secret tenant. For one year, Tatsuko Horikawa, a 58-year-old woman, had lived in his attic and stolen his food. Some of you may have squatters living in your house, too! Squatters like fear and sickness try to live in you illegally, but your faith can kick them out.

"Now faith is the assurance (the title deed, the confirmation) ...[faith perceiving as real fact what is not revealed to the senses.] Heb. 11:1 AMPC

Purpose in your heart today to rise above the natural realm and live by faith. Take these six descriptions and determine to "walk by faith, not by sight," for this is the type of life that pleases God.

Faith Principle #1

Faith is acting on the Word for supernatural living.

Faith is the oven mitt that grabs hope and pulls it out of the oven.

WHAT IS FAITH?

01

Faith is the product of the recreated spirit.

02

Your inward man is like a toolbox filled with faith for miracles.

03

Your faith can grow stronger by meditating and acting on the Word.

04

Faith is a title deed for everything Jesus purchased for you on Calvary.



SUPPORTING SCRIPTURES

Heb. 11:1

Mk. 4:14

Lk. 17:8

Rom. 3:27

Rom. 4:20

Rom. 12:3

Faith Promises About Eternal Life

John 3:16, John 11:25

Your Father God is inviting you into a love relationship with Him. Through Jesus Christ, you are an heir to all the promises of God, and He always keeps His Word. Let's talk about eternal life.

God created you and everyone as a triune being; spirit, soul, body. We must try to grasp the reality that you and everyone you know will live forever somewhere. Heaven will be filled with rewards. Hell will be filled with regrets. By faith, highlight and believe these two Bible promises for you and your loved ones regarding eternal life.

Weigh it

Take eternal life seriously. Who do you know that needs to be saved?

Pray it

Lord, thank you for opening _____ eyes of understanding. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Say it

Father, according to Acts 16:31, household salvation is mine.



The gospel of Jesus Christ is not when man believed in God, but when God believed in man.

Reflection



GREATER THAN

Heaven > Hell

Because Jesus Is Lord

Chapter 2

HOW FAITH WORKS

As a Registered *Nurse*, I took many patients to the Radiology Department. Their *X-rays* revealed two kidneys, a gallbladder, heart, and lungs, but I knew a *secret*. There was something not showing on that x-ray that could change everything. Right in the middle of their visible GI tract was an invisible *spirit man* filled with mountain-moving faith!

YOUR WORD IS TRUTH JN. 17:17

Highlight these Chapter Two scriptures in your Bible

MARK 11:23

For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says.

ROMANS 10:8-9

But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach); 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.

LOOKING AHEAD

- Big Bang Theory
- Two-wheeled bicycle
- Heart + Mouth

Faith grows out of the Word.

Reading scriptures aloud increases comprehension.

HOW FAITH WORKS

For He spoke, and it came to be. Ps. 33:9

The world was created by the spoken Word of God. Not the thoughts of God. Not the writings of God. The spoken Word. The example of how faith works in the Bible's first chapter could not be more clear. Faith is released through the spoken Word of God.

God Creates Through The Spoken Word

Gen. 1:3 - **And God said**, "Let there be light" ... **and there was light.**

Gen. 1:6 - **And God said**, "Let there be a sky" ... **and it was so.**

Gen. 1:9 - **And God said**, "Let the waters" ... **and it was so.**

Gen. 1:11 - **And God said**, Let the earth bring" ... **and it was so.**

Gen. 1:14 - **And God said**, "Let there be lights" ... **and it was so.**

Gen. 1:20 - **And God said**, "Let the waters bring" ... **and God saw that it was good.**

Gen. 1:24 - **And God said**, "Let the earth bring forth" ... **and it was so.**

Gen. 1:26 - **And God said**, "Let us make man **in our image**... **and behold it was very good.**

Adam was an exact duplication of God's kind. He was God's co-creator and friend. God created Adam to do what He does, to create through his spoken word.

- In our image (NKJV) -- to be like Us and to do what we do
- In our likeness (KJV) -- The word "likeness" in the original Hebrew means "an exact duplication in kind."

When Adam and Eve fell from grace, it was 4,000+ years before God gave mankind another invitation through the Person of Jesus Christ, also known as the Second Adam. I Cor. 15:45

Jesus' Releases Faith Through His Spoken Word

Just like His Father, we see the power of the Spoken Word. We continue to see the connection between a faith-filled heart and a faith-filled mouth. Jesus hosted an impromptu Faith Seminar with His disciples which is recorded in Mark 11:23-24.

For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says Mk. 11:23

Jesus spoke faith-filled words with significant results. Notice that He didn't pray for healing. Instead, He spoke to the disease or destructive forces.

Jesus spoke to _____ and a blind man could see. Mk. 10:46

Jesus spoke to _____ and the hemorrhage stopped. Mat. 9:20

Jesus spoke to _____ and the possessed was delivered. Mk. 5:13

Jesus spoke to _____ and the leper was healed. Mk. 1:20

Jesus spoke to _____ and Jairus' anxiety turned into faith. Mat. 9:18

Jesus spoke to _____ and the waters became calm. Mk. 4:39

Jesus spoke to a _____ and it died from the roots. Mk. 11:23

Newsflash! The faith of Jesus is in you.

God's Word in your mouth releases God's power in your life.

Faith is in the heart and mouth

But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach): 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. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. Rom. 10:8-10

Underline and count how many times "mouth" in this scripture: _____

Underline and count how many times "heart" in this scripture: _____

The spirit of faith = I believe and therefore speak. Read II Cor. 4:13.

Two Types Of Confession

A spiritual law to remember is that our confessions rule us. When people hear the term 'confession' they automatically think about something negative, such as the confession of sin. That's important, but there are two types of confession:

#1 Negative confession - the confession of our _____.

#2 Positive confession - the confession of our _____.

- The confession of sin is admitting what you have done.
- The confession of faith is acknowledging what Jesus has done.
- Both types of confession involve the heart and the mouth.

Confessions Of Faith

The foundation of walking by faith includes biblical confession. In the original Greek, confession means "to agree with." Remember that! As you read God's Word, start saying, "Father, if You said it, I agree." Since a confession of faith means "to agree with God," we need to get serious about learning what He says about us. Learning to confess the Word (*Agree with God*) will introduce you to a supernatural life.

Can you agree with God even if it doesn't make sense to your intellect? If you have a splitting headache, can you still agree that "you are healed by the stripes of Jesus?" If you lose your job, can you still agree that "my God shall supply all your needs?" When you make a choice to agree with God instead of what you see or how you feel, you are learning to "walk by faith, not by sight."

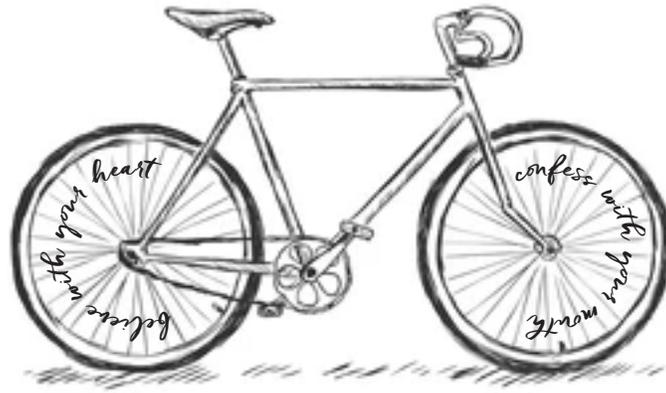
Faith takes you where reason cannot go.

You might think, "I feel like I would be lying if I said that I was healed when my head was throbbing." That would be true for those living by their senses, but believers live by the Word of God, which is truth and the final authority. If He says that you're healed, you are healed. As you continue to act on the Word, it will dominate every symptom. See "Biblical Confessions of Faith," Ch. 3 in Vol. 4, *Who We Are In Christ*.

My Big Bang Theory ... And God said, "Let there be" ... BANG!

A Faith Formula

Faith is not complicated. Once you've determined what God's will is, It's like a two-wheeled bicycle: believe with your heart, confess with your mouth, believe with your heart, confess with your mouth. Until you figure that out, you ain't goin' anywhere.



This "**Believe and Confess**" bicycle concept is how you got born again. This is exactly what Romans 10:8-10 teaches us.

*"... 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." Rom. 10:8-10*

The benefit of living by faith is to experience and demonstrate the Father's love and power. Admittedly, there have been some shallow and selfish abuses of this teaching, but it's still a biblical principle. Keep speaking the Word!

Faith Frames Your World

By faith we understand that the worlds [during the successive ages] were framed (fashioned, put in order, and equipped for their intended purpose) by the word of God so that what we see was not made out of things which are visible. Heb. 11:3 AMPC

The most powerful force in the universe is God's Word. The second most powerful force in the universe is God's Word in your mouth. We learn from Hebrews 11:1 that faith is a substance. You can't build without substance. Faith-filled spoken words were God's substance that He used to frame the world. By speaking His Word, you can frame your world, too! You can begin a life of faith by answering these three questions:

- The Written Word - *What does the Word say?*
- The Living Word - *What did Jesus say?*
- The Spoken Word - *What do you say?*

If all three of your answers are the same, you have created a fail proof faith formula. It will work anywhere at any time for anything you need. I hesitate to use the word "formula," but will address it more in a later chapter. It's the same formula that Jesus used.

*And since we have the same **spirit of faith**, according to what is written, "I believed and therefore I spoke," we also believe and therefore speak. II Cor. 4:13*



BY FAITH =
Say what God Says.

It's Your Turn

What you say is your faith speaking. Is your life filled with confusion? Are you worried about a family member? Spend some time meditating on these four words you just read from Hebrews 11:3.

- Framed
- Fashioned
- Put in order
- Equipped for an intended purpose

Sample #1: "Thank you, Father, for this faith formula. According to Hebrews 11:3, I agree with You that

_____ 's life is being framed, fashioned, put in order, and equipped for an intended purpose.

Name

In Jesus' Name. Amen."

Sample #2: "Thank you, Father, for Your promise of household salvation in Acts 16:31. I declare that Brad's heart is opening to your love and salvation is his. In Jesus' Name. Amen."

Sample #3: "Thank you, Father, for Your promise of guidance in Psalm 32:8. As Anna is led by Your Spirit, I expect her to get the right job. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

My friend, Peggy Joyce, battled tormenting psychiatric issues for years until she dared to speak God's Word out loud. Believing it in her heart, she said, "I am blessed of the Lord. I'm the apple of God's eye. The Greater One lives in me." Gradually, God's power within her set her free of all demonic oppression, and she is a retired pastor's wife and best-selling author today.

Faith Principle #2
Believe in your heart and confess with your mouth.

HOW FAITH WORKS

01

God created the world with faith-filled words.

02

Jesus released His power through faith-filled words.

03

Believe in your heart, Confess with your mouth.
#repeat

04

A biblical confession of faith agrees with what God says.



SUPPORTING SCRIPTURES

Gen. 1:1

Prv. 6:2

Prv. 18:21

Mk. 11:23

Rom. 10:8-10

II Cor. 4:13

Faith Promises For Forgiveness

Psalm 103:12, I John 1:9

A teen got a summer job at the local diner and was told to take out the trash and hurry back. He didn't know where to take it, so he just put it in a closet every day for eight days. When the owner noticed a foul smell he discovered the trash heap and questioned the teen. His reply was, "I didn't know where to take it and it kept piling up."

People treat guilt that way. They don't know where to take it so it just keeps piling up, weighing them down, and leaving a foul odor in their life. The good news is they can take their guilt to Jesus and be forgiven. By faith, highlight and believe these two Bible promises for you and your loved ones regarding forgiveness.

Weigh it

What are you carrying guilt or shame over?

Pray it

Heavenly Father, according to I John 1:9, I am _____ and

_____. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Say it

My past has been cleansed by the Blood of Jesus. I am forgiven. There is no condemnation to those who walk in Christ Jesus.



Take your guilt to the cross, and don't drag it back home.

Reflection



GREATER THAN

Forgiveness > Guilt

Chapter 3

FAITH PLEASES GOD

The special *wedding* day had finally arrived! The grandmother's homestead had never looked more beautiful, but when the three-tier wedding cake came out of the oven, it was as *flat* as a board! What happened? In the rush of the day, the aunt *forgot to mix* in the flour. Ugh. Perhaps some of our life's disasters occurred because we forgot to "mix it with *faith*" and then wonder why it fell flat.

YOUR WORD IS TRUTH JN. 17:17

Highlight these Chapter Three scriptures in your Bible

HEBREWS 4:2

For indeed the gospel was preached to us as well as to them; but the word which they heard did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in those who heard it.

HEBREWS 11:6

But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

LOOKING AHEAD

- Meet God
- What's a rhema?
- Seed-Faith living

The Bible is about a Father and His family.

Reading scriptures aloud increases comprehension.

FAITH PLEASES GOD

But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him. Heb. 11:6

In reading that scripture, one can quickly see two reasons why faith is so pleasing to God.

1. Faith Reveals Who God Is

"...he who comes to God must believe that He is..."

Names were significant in the Old Testament and used as identifying markers. God revealed Himself to our Old Covenant friends through His compound names. Compound names describe different attributes of that person. For example,

- *John-Husband*
- *John-Dad*
- *John-Bowler Buddy*
- *John-Veteran*

The Seven Compound Names Of God (A "Meet God" Chart)

Name	Description	Scripture
Jehovah-Jireh	The Lord our Provider	Genesis 22:14
Jehovah-Rapha	The Lord our Healer	Genesis 15:26
Jehovah-Nissi	The Lord our Banner	Exodus. 17:15
Jehovah-Shammah	The Lord is Present	Exodus 33:14
Jehovah-Shalom	The Lord our Peace	Judges 6:24
Jehovah-Ra'ah	The Lord our Shepherd	Psalms 23:1
Jehovah-Tsidkenu	The Lord our Righteousness	Jeremiah 23:6

A faith that pleases God is anchored in knowing who He is. When you read these seven descriptions of God, highlight the references in your Bible. Write His compound name in the margin. Pray that Holy Spirit will open your mind to each of His majestic personalities and *"believe that He is."*

Faith connects you with the world of Himpossible!

2. Faith Reveals What God Does - Rewards!

"...he is a rewarder of them who diligently seek Him."

God is a Rewarder. I've never understood why Christians think that it's humble not to be blessed. Some ministers who have concerns about materialistic blessings have piously said, *"I'm seeking His face, not His hand."* But, dear ones, when you seek Him, you will find both His face and His Hand. Rewards for seeking Him will overflow to you through Christ Jesus. Here are a few of the many rewards in Christ. As you highlight them in your Bible, marvel at your Father's great love for you. These rewards are not a flimsy hope but promises from the One who says, *"He who promised is faithful."* Heb. 10:23

Reward	Through	New Testament
Salvation	Jesus	Rom. 10:9-10, I Pet. 3:8
Forgiveness	Jesus	Eph. 1:7, I Jn. 1:9
New Life	Jesus	Jn. 10:10, II Cor. 5:17
Freedom	Jesus	Jn. 8:36, II Cor. 3:17
Righteousness	Jesus	Rom. 5:17, II Cor. 5:21
The Holy Spirit	Jesus	Jn. 14:26, Acts 1:8
The Word	Jesus	II Tim. 3:16, Heb. 4:12
Healing	Jesus	Mat. 8:17, I Pet. 2:24
Guidance	Jesus	Jn. 14:6, Jn. 16:13

For all the promises of God in Him are "Yes" and in Him "Amen" to the glory of God through us. II Cor. 1:20

Recognizing A Rhema Word

Walking in a faith that pleases God will sometimes include acting upon a rhema word, God's spoken Word. Have you ever been reading your Bible and seen a specific scripture so clearly or so differently that it seemed to jump off of the page? That was a rhema word. The Greek word *"rhema"* simply means *"any spoken word."* It is a Spirit-selected scripture just for you at the exact moment it is needed. In the New Testament, there are two different Greek words used to identify the words from God: logos and rhema.

Logos - the written word

This is the Bible which you hold in your hand.

Rhema - the spoken word

This is the quickened scripture or message God speaks to your heart. The term "quickened" means to be "made alive."



BY FAITH =
God is my Source

A True Story

When my mother visited her mother's new grave, she experienced her first-ever rhema word at 58 years of age. Standing at the grave, my mom clearly heard inside of her, *"*Why seek ye the living among the dead?"* An indescribable joy flooded her. She knew that she had received this hope-filled scripture from the Lord and was instantaneously delivered from grief. No one can take a Rhema word out of you. It's an example of "deep calleth unto deep" from Ps. 42:7. Rhema words are filled with faith and will always agree with the written Word. Here's the difference between Logos and Rhema:

Logos

God's written general Word
Intellectually processed
Must be rightly divided
Must be read in context
Serves as a foundation for rhemas

Rhema

God's personalized spoken Word
Faith or peace explodes in your heart
Sometimes a scripture, sometimes a message
*Sometimes out of context, but never contradicts the Word
Must be "claimed" until fulfilled

A Rhema's #1 Rule

Remember to compare your rhema with the logos. It will never, never contradict the written Word. We knew a man that said, *"God gave me a rhema word that my since my wife has gained sixty pounds, I could divorce her and marry a co-worker."* We explained that God's Word would never support divorce over someone gaining weight. How shallow. How selfish. On the contrary, when you've been trusted with a rhema word from the Lord, you should treasure it by writing down the date and details. If its fulfillment takes longer than you expected, a record will provide you the courage to *"do not cast away your confidence which has great reward."* Heb. 10:35

The Miracle Of Seed-Faith

Another type of faith that pleases God is called Seed-Faith Living. God used Oral Roberts to bring these simple truths into the Body of Christ as he built a university in the 1970s. People today have said, *"Oh, that stuff is just Oral's opinion,"* but I'm quick to reply, *"No, it comes straight from the Bible, and I have proven it to be true for over fifty years."*

While traveling in California, you can visit the giant Redwood trees and marvel at their 300 feet towering strength. The tree's twelve-foot-diameter is so massive that a road was built for visitors to drive their car through it! Hundreds of years ago, each tree was one tiny seed. **Everything God does starts with a seed planted.** Your "seeds" can be your time, your talent, or your finances, but these biblical principles will work every time:

Three Key Principles For Seed-Faith

-  Key 1) God is your Source. Ph. 4:19
-  Key 2) Give that it may be given to you. Lk. 6:38
-  Key 3) Expect a miracle. Heb. 11:6

A seed will meet any need.

The Law of Sowing and Reaping.

Farmers and gardeners throughout history have depended on this principle to be true in the natural realm. They didn't realize they were planting "by faith," but after preparing the soil, planting and watering the seed, they patiently waited for the seed to produce a harvest.

God's Word confirms what is true in agriculture is true in your journey of faith, as well. God's Word is a seed and can be planted in faith.

Bible Examples of Seed-Faith Miracles

Match the story with the miracle.

_____ Boy gave Jesus two fish and five small loaves.

_____ Issac sowed in a famine.

_____ Peter gave an empty boat to Jesus.

_____ God planted His Son as a seed.

A. Luke 5:1-7

B. John 3:16

C. John 6:13

D. Genesis 26:12

When He talks to you about a seed, He has a harvest in mind.

Mix It With Faith

For indeed the gospel was preached to us as well as to them; but the word which they heard did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in those who heard it. Heb. 4:2

This scripture gives you one more key to what pleases God. When you hear the gospel preached, mix it with faith by saying, "I believe that, and I'll act accordingly." It's easy to have faith in your spiritual mentors or miracle evangelists rather than yourself. But, having faith in your faith is having faith in what Jesus has done for you.

Once I discovered Jeremiah 1:12, I never felt any pressure again to be a miracle worker.

"He watches over His _____ to perform it." Jer. 1:12

A. Opinions

B. Suggestions

C. Word

D. Church traditions

A True Story

There is no pressure to perform the Word. As you step out in faith, He'll show up. At a DC Miracle Rally, I privately prayed, "Lord, hundreds have come tonight to get healed, and I can't heal a flea!" Immediately, His humorous reply came to me. "Relax, I'm the Performer. Your part is to open the curtain." I "opened the curtain" by telling miracle stories and pointing them to Jesus, and many were healed by the power of the name of Jesus. You can "open the curtain," too, by simply pointing people to Jesus.

Faith Principle #3
Faith pleases God.

FAITH PLEASURES GOD

01

Faith that pleases God is anchored in who He is.

02

The logos is God's written Word. A rhema is God's spoken Word.

03

Seed-Faith living pleases God because it requires faith.

04

The Law of Sowing and Reaping is His method for miracles.



SUPPORTING SCRIPTURES

Gen. 22:14

Gen. 26:12

Lk. 6:38

Heb. 4:2

Heb. 11:6

Ph. 4:19

Excuse #3: I Don't Understand the Bible

Psalm 32:8, John 16:13

Your Father God is inviting you into a love relationship with Him. Through Jesus Christ, you are an heir to all the promises of God, and He always keeps His Word. The promises concerning guidance are comforting and available to you today. By faith, highlight and believe these two Bible promises for you and your loved ones regarding guidance.

Weigh it

What area of your life do you need guidance?

Pray it

According to Psalm 23:1, You are my Shepherd and leading me to good things.

Say it

My future path is shining bright because Jesus is Lord of my life. Prv. 4:16



Don't be so consumed with your "next" that you miss out on your "now."

Reflection



GREATER THAN

Peace > Confusion

Because Jesus Is Lord



Chapter 4

FAITH IS NOW

South Africans describe the time in *four* distinct forms of “now.” There’s “Right Now, Now, Just Now, and Now Now.” Those definitions range from *urgent* to in a few minutes, tomorrow or never. I’m not sure of these African “now” terms, but when it comes to God’s description of faith ...

Faith is now.

YOUR WORD IS TRUTH JN. 17:17

Highlight these Chapter Four scriptures in your Bible

HEBREWS 1:1

God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets.

ROMANS 4:17

(as it is written, "I have made you a father of many nations") in the presence of Him whom he believed—God, who gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did.

LOOKING AHEAD

- Two types of knowledge
- Hope is someday
- Mental assent

God's Word changes you from the inside out.

Reading scriptures aloud increases comprehension.

FAITH IS NOW

Forever, O Lord, Your Word is settled in heaven. Ps. 119:89

God's plan for all of His family is to "walk by faith, not by sight." II Cor. 5:7 This type of overcoming life belongs to those who exchange their "hopin' and a-prayin'" for real faith. They won't become hysterical when bad news arrives because they have a victory report waiting for them in the Word.

A True Story

Several years ago, a doctor gave an alarming report to a mom at our church about a blood condition in her pre-teen. The woman calmly replied, "Thank you for your support, Doctor. We know what to do." The doctor tried again to explain how serious it was, but he didn't know of the mom's secret source of ammunition; a quality choice to make the Word final authority. As a family, they quoted and believed the healing scriptures and the pre-teen's lab work came back completely normal. God's Word is the final authority.

Two Kinds Of Knowledge

1. Sense Knowledge is the perception of reality based on your five senses:

- what you see
- what you taste
- what you smell
- what you feel
- what you hear

Most people live by their five senses. The source of their knowledge and decisions come to and from them based on these five senses. For example, if it's raining, they stay inside so they don't have to feel wet. If they are hungry, they stop whatever they are doing so they can eat. If they see bad news on social media, their mood spirals into depression.

I Corinthians 3:3 AMPC describes them as, ***"behaving after a human standard like mere unchanged men."***

Carnal Christians live this way, too. Their senses rule their day. Senses dominate their month. Senses control their life. God never intended for His family to live on this type of emotional roller coaster. His plan is to be controlled by His Word.

2. Word Ruled Knowledge

When you put the Word first in your life, you'll no longer be controlled by your senses. II Corinthians 5:17 says, *"All things are new. Old things are passed away..."* The old things refer to the sin nature's death-doomed, sense-ruled way of living, and the new things include the God kind of faith in your new nature. What kind of faith is this? It's an overcoming faith.

This is the victory that overcomes the world, even our faith. I Jn. 5:4

All of humanity is sense-ruled or Word-ruled. At their moment, you are either being controlled by your

_____ or by the _____ of God.

A Word-ruled person does not deny their symptoms or circumstances. They simply deny they will not have the last word because

"_____ is He that is in me than He that is in the world." I Jn. 4:4

Faith is now. If it's not now, it's not faith.

Faith Grows Out Of The Word

Quit praying for faith! Quit praying for what you already have. Faith grows out of the Word, not by praying for it. Genuine Bible faith involves a new relationship with your Bible, the Word of God.

Faith comes by _____ and hearing by the _____ of God. Rom. 10:17

Take heed what you _____ ... unto you that _____ shall more be given to you. Mk. 4:24

The word "hear" can be translated as "obey." You can certainly remember your mom saying, "Did you H-E-A-R me?" She was not referring to the function of your two ears but the obedience of your heart. So likewise, to hear God is to obey Him. Growing up spiritually means that you begin to operate as God operates - in faith, not hope. There is a vast difference.

Hope Is Someday

Hope is the confident expectation of what God has promised. It is an earnest anticipation that comes with believing something good. It is a peaceful assurance that something that hasn't happened yet will indeed happen. Thus, hope always involves something that is as yet unseen.

"Hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have?" Rom. 8:24

An example of hope would be when a father promises to take his son to the beach. Based on trust in his father's promise, the child is filled with joy, but he has not yet felt the sand in his toes or tasted the salt in the ocean.

When You Pray

Jesus explained, "Faith is now" in this foundational scripture. It is worth taking time to memorize.

*Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask **when you pray**, believe that you receive them, and you will have them. Mark 11:24*

Read Mark 11:24 out loud and answer the following questions. Most people don't receive anything from the Lord until they see it, but this instruction from Jesus says otherwise. He says to receive the answer by faith when you pray. Here's an example:

What are you praying for?

Salvation for my brother-in-law.

Is it God's will?

Yes, according to Acts 16:31.

What date did you pray for this?

November 6

What date did you receive it?

November 6

(That is a trick question. Read Mark 11:24 and write in the same date that you prayed for it.)

Have you seen it with your eyes?

Not yet, but I will.

In Mark 11:24, what date should you "believe that you receive them?" When I pray



BY FAITH =
Doing The Word.

A Simple Quiz

Put an "N" for items that are "Now" and "S" for "Someday."

_____ Grandchildren _____ USA Flag is red/white/blue _____ Healing
_____ Retirement _____ Faith _____ Provision
_____ Eyes to read this _____ Hope

Faith Is Now

Now faith is Heb. 11:1

Faith is now. If it isn't now, it isn't faith. So, you might ask, "How does hope work together with faith?"

Faith and hope are complementary. Hope is someday, while faith is now. Someone who says, "I believe that Jesus will heal my knee," reveals their lack of understanding. They might believe that God *can* heal their knee, and they might believe that God *will someday* heal their knee, but faith is now. When you are "in faith," you will declare, "My knee is healed," and you'll be getting out of bed to act on the Word.

Confirmation Number

Let's say that you placed an order for a red blazer from an online store. You placed the order, paid for it, and received a confirmation number. Two weeks later, you have not received your jacket and the company's representative says, "We have no record of your purchase and will not be able to send you a jacket." Your confident reply is, "I have a confirmation number as proof of purchase." That changes everything, and your jacket arrives in two days.

When did you become the owner of that jacket?

- A. When it was delivered?
- B. When you placed the order?

Correct, when you placed the order. You couldn't see it or feel it, but it was already yours. The same process applies to the "when you pray" type of praying in faith. The moment you ask your Father for something in faith, it's yours. Your confirmation number is #MK1124, and you can refute anyone who disagrees. Hallelujah!

Sometimes an online order gets lost, or the answer to a prayer seems to get delayed. Don't get discouraged or let go of that confirmation number. Simply stay in faith, thanking your Father that what He has promised is on its way. When the devil whispers, "Where's that miracle?" your reply is, "It's mine. It's paid for. It's on its way."

A True Story

When the Lord showed Tommy the location of our new church land, there was not even a road to it. The sellers declined our offer several times, but we knew that it was the Father's choice of property. In prayer, we "placed our order" and kept the confirmation number in our hearts. We trained our church leaders to say, "There's our church land," as they drove by. Eventually, God opened their hearts, and we paid cash for thirty-five acres directly off the interstate.

Faith vs. Reason

Faith comes when the Word prevails over our thinking processes, but reason is an enemy to genuine faith. It operates in the sense realm and is the product of the fallen man. It demands contact with the sense world. Reason and doubt are cousins which insist on physical evidence. People controlled by reason will scream about "common sense" and "the

It's not what you know but what you do that makes your faith work.

experts say blah, blah, blah." They will never understand those who have chosen to walk by faith, not by sight.

A good example of reason, also known as sense knowledge, can be seen in Thomas' response after Jesus' resurrection.

Reason says: *Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails and put my finger (feel) into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe. Jn. 20:25*

Faith says: *Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. Jn. 20:29*

Faith _____ and then sees. Reason _____ and then believes.

The Danger Of Mental Assent

Mental assent admires God's Word but never acts upon it. You may be a great Bible scholar, knowing all the promises, even filled with the mighty Spirit of God, but if you do not act on the Word of God, you will remain just as sick, tired, and broken as the unredeemed. Mental assent is deceptive and has no power. For example, when sickness comes, Christians begin to quote the healing promises. As a parrot in a cage, they faithfully repeat, "By His stripes I am healed," but until an action is attached, it remains in the realm of hope.

Acting On The Word

The secret to receiving from God is knowing that faith is a verb. It is the divine energy of God that is resident in the Word of God. I like the word picture of, "Faith is the oven mitt that pulls hope out of the oven." Many Christians are waiting on God when He is waiting on you. When someone believes the Word, there is always a corresponding action to it. Action activates faith.

Faith without _____ is dead. Jms. 2:20

The Word is taking the Master's place in your life. What you do with the Word will determine what the Word does with you. Will you enjoy the Bible study but not act upon it? Is it just an intellectual exercise? Your response to the Word is in your hands. Ponder on this truth. Jesus never tried to believe. He acted on the Word of His Father. He never sought faith. He simply did what His Father told Him to do.

Pick Up Your Bed And Walk

An excellent example of "Faith is now" is found in Mark's gospel when four friends lowered their paralyzed friend down through a roof to be healed by Jesus. Notice the reactions of the religious scribes, of Jesus, and the paralyzed man on the mat.

"When Jesus perceived in His spirit that they (scribes) reasoned thus within themselves, He said to them, 'Why do you reason about these things in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Arise, take up your bed and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins"—He said to the paralytic, "I say to you, arise, take up your bed, and go to your house." Immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went out ... " Mk. 2:8-12

As the paralyzed man from Mark 2 heard Jesus' words, he had a choice to make:

- A. Cater to reason - "I can't walk. I'm paralyzed."
- B. Act on Jesus' word - "I don't feel anything, but I'll obey Your command."

Obedience to Jesus' words always brings healing. As you do what you can, God will do you can not. Don't wait until you see or feel something. Instead, respond to Jesus' words now because "Faith is now."

Faith Principle #4
Faith is now.

FAITH IS NOW

01

People receive knowledge either through their senses or from the Word.

02

Hope is the confident expectation of something good "someday."

03

Mental assent admires the Word, but doesn't act upon it.

04

Faith is now. It is the result of acting on the Word.



SUPPORTING SCRIPTURES

Mk. 11:24

Jn. 20:29

Rom. 4:17

Heb. 11:1

Jms. 2:20

1 Jn. 5:4

Faith Promises For Protection

Proverbs 91:11, Isaiah 54:17

Your Father God is inviting you into a love relationship with Him. Through Jesus Christ, you are an heir to all the promises of God, and He always keeps His Word. Just as you would mix the flour into a cake mix, remember to mix faith with the word of God. By faith, highlight and believe these two Bible promises for you and your loved ones regarding protection.

Weigh it

Write any specific area that you need protection

Pray it

According to Psalm 91:11, Father, I believe that you are giving angels charge over us.

Say it

No weapon formed against me shall prosper.



Angels are mentioned in your Bible 171 times. Believe!

Reflection



GREATER THAN

Faith > Fear

Because Jesus Is Lord

Chapter 5

THE WORD- RULED MIND

You can't keep a bird from flying over your *head*, but you can keep it from making a nest in your hair. That advice from an old farmer can apply to our *thoughts*, too. So many Christians wonder why God isn't helping them out, but they have a *terrible case* of Stinkin' Thinkin' that prevents those blessings. *It's time* to start thinkin' about our thinkin.'

YOUR WORD IS TRUTH JN. 17:17

Highlight these Chapter Five scriptures in your Bible

I CORINTHIANS 3:3

For you are still carnal. For where there are envy, strife, and divisions among you, are you not carnal and behaving like mere men?

ROMANS 12:2

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

LOOKING AHEAD

- What controls you?
- A cow's stomach
- Choose the Word

When you read the Bible, the Bible reads you.

Reading scriptures aloud increases comprehension.

THE WORD-RULED MIND

Forever, O Lord, Your Word is settled in heaven. Ps. 119:89

Several years ago, a doctor gave an alarming report to a mom at our church about a blood condition in her pre-teen. The woman calmly replied, "Thank you for your support, Doctor. We know what to do." The doctor tried again to explain how serious it was, but he didn't know of the mom's secret source of ammunition; a quality choice to make the Word final authority. As a family, they quoted and believed the healing scriptures and the pre-teen's lab work came back completely normal. God's Word is the final authority.

If the Word says it, that settles it.

I'm not moved by what I feel. I'm only moved by the Word that's real.

Developing a Word-ruled mind begins when you choose to let God's Word be the last word. You're not denying the fact that you have a problem. You are denying the problem from having the last word. A Word-ruled mind enables you to reject any thought that contradicts God's Word. It causes you to think and act like Jesus. I have known crack addicts who became successful CEOs because they believed what God said about them. Destructive forces such as disease, despair, and depression no longer need to torment you. The Word works!

Most Christians are aware of their potential for victory. They know *"If God is for them, who could be against them,"* and *"Greater is He who is in me than He who is in the world."* Nevertheless, their lives don't always reflect the overcoming lifestyle which is made available to them. The reason is made clear by the Apostle Paul as he describes the two types of Christians. Believers are categorized by what controls them.

Two Types Of Christians

And I, brethren, could not speak to you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ. I Cor. 3:3

Carnal	Spiritual
Fed milk	Fed meat
Envy	
Strife	Senses and mental faculties are trained
Divisions	Trained by practice
Milk, not meat	Able to distinguish good from contrary to divine law
Living as mere men	Living as Adam did pre-Fall

As stated in chapter four, carnal Christians are ruled by their senses, while the Word of God rules spiritual Christians.

For you are still [unspiritual, having the nature] of the flesh [under the control of ordinary impulses]. For as long as [there are] envying and jealousy and wrangling and factions among you, are you not unspiritual and of the flesh, behaving yourselves after a human standard and like mere (unchanged) men? I Cor. 3:3 AMPC

The Word is God speaking to you.

Carnal believers are controlled by their senses

- Under the control of ordinary impulses
- Behaving after a human standard
- Like mere (unchanged) men
- Uncontrolled appetites; food, sexual, financial
- Roller-coaster emotions
- Short-term gratification
- Self-centered goals

Spiritual believers share the same life experiences but, instead, are ruled by God's Word.

When Jesus was in the desert preparing for ministry, Satan's strategy was to distract Jesus from the Word by focusing Him on His appetites. *"Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, ... 'If you are the Son of God, ...' But He (Jesus) answered and said, 'It is written ...'"*

That's what you can do. Reply to any symptom or setback with, "It is written."

"If you can find where 'it is written,' you, too, can put the devil on the run."

Tommy Burchfield

Satan has no new tricks. Read I John 2:16 and notice that all temptation is controlled by our senses.

How To Live A Word-Ruled Life

"... for we walk by faith, not by sight." II Cor. 5:7

As a believer in Jesus Christ, you should focus on *Who We Are In Christ" and the role of the Church today. You'll want to spend your time building what He is building, and He's building His church. Take the New Testament seriously. As a new creature in Christ, you have Jesus' nature and authority living inside of you. The Word takes the place of the Unseen Christ. The Word is God speaking to you. Read it as a personal love letter and instructions from your Father.

For the word of God is _____ and _____ ... " Heb. 4:12

**Read Foundations-For-Life, Vol. 4 - Who We Are In Christ*

A True Story

Lester Sumrall, one of our faith heroes, was asked to explain why sick people who are prayed for sometimes die. His response was, "There are several possible answers such as secret sin or unbelief, but I have settled in my heart that the Word is not proven to be true or not true by the experiences of men. God's Word is forever settled in heaven. If two hundred people in my congregation died tonight with an epidemic, I would preach the next Sunday on the healing power of Jesus." What an example of a Word-ruled mind and a steadfast heart.

Meditate on the Word

God's fool-proof plan for success begins with meditating on the Word.

This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall _____ in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way _____, and then you will have _____. Jos. 1:8

Meditation in the Word feeds our faith, builds the inner image, and builds a capacity for faith. Look no further than your neighbor's cow to understand the powerful role of meditating on the Word.



BY FAITH =
Agree with God.

The Cow's Stomach

Only at Texas Bible Institute will you get to learn about the stomach of a cow! A cow has four stomachs. (*technically, one stomach with four chambers.*) A cow eats grass in the morning, and it goes to his first stomach. After a while, he brings it back up and chews on it some more. (*For you non-Texans, this is called "chewing their cud."*) This process occurs several times until all the nutrients and flavor has been extracted. The cow then swallows it entirely, and it becomes part of its being.

Memorizing is as eating the grass, and meditating is as chewing on it. After several days of meditating (thinking, chewing, savoring) a scripture, it will become part of your entire being. It will change your inner man's image. It's in you, and you know it.

Act on the Word

To believe the Word is to act on it. You don't need to "try to believe." Mental assent admires but does not act. A person who has a Word-ruled mind will quickly forgive, give, and live boldly for Jesus. It doesn't matter to them if they feel goosebumps or see an angel. If the Word says it, they believe it.

Your Senses Can Be Trained

For everyone who lives on milk is [doctrinally inexperienced and] unskilled in the word of righteousness, since he is a spiritual infant. But solid food is for the [spiritually] mature, whose senses are trained by practice to distinguish between what is morally good and what is evil. Heb. 5:13-14 AMPC

My spirit is king. My soul is its servant. My body is its slave.

You'll learn quickly which part of your three-part being is in control when you decide to "walk by faith, not by sight." Every offense, setback, and symptom is going to scream. The first few times I tried to fast my lunch, I had to stop because I got so hungry. Eventually, I learned to agree with Philippians 3:19 that "my god was not my belly" and told my flesh to shut up. You might ask, "Can you do that?" Yes, you are training your senses to submit to the Word. You are learning to be ruled by the Word.

Be prepared for craving and symptoms to scream at you as my empty stomach did, but you'll learn to scream back, "Jesus is Lord." The Word works in every area. In the area of finances, let the Word guide and you'll always have plenty. When your eyes wander to an unholy website, the Word will rise in you and say, "I will set nothing before my eyes." Ps. 101:3 A person controlled by the Word will be filled with peace, purpose, and power to be an overcomer.

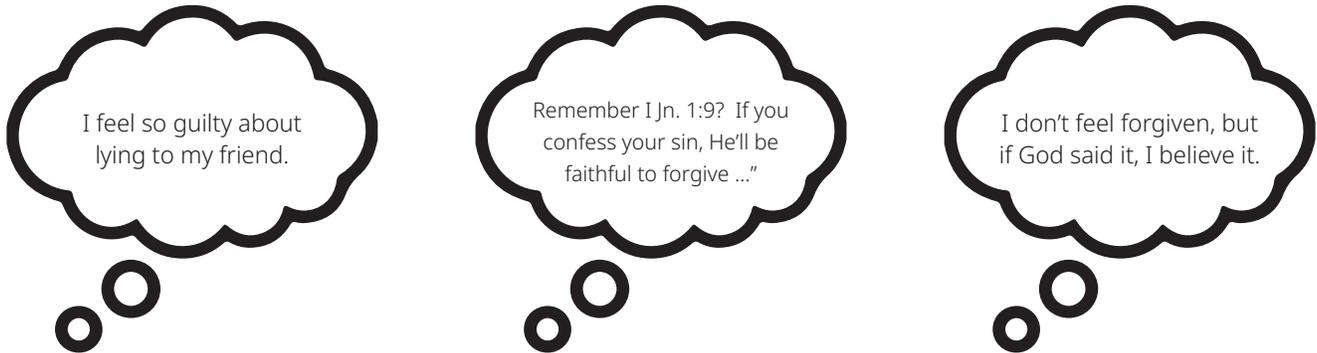
Is God's Word the final authority in your life?

Renew Your Mind

Our minds need to be reprogrammed with the Word of God. Romans 12:3 instructs you to

“Be _____ by the _____ of your mind...” Rom. 12:3

This is a simple, ongoing process of comparing your thoughts with God’s Word. Here’s how it works:



Any time you are defeated, compare your thoughts with the Word of God. Once you return to the place of being Word-ruled, faith will dominate your entire world.

Put the Word in you when you don't need it, and it will be there for you when you do need it.

Pastor Tommy Burchfield

Faith Principle #5

The Word works!

THE WORD-RULED MIND

01

A Word-ruled believer allows God's Word to be the final authority in their life.

02

Christians are either carnal (sense-ruled) or spiritual. (Word-ruled)

03

Carnal believers live in constant drama, but a Word-ruled believer is steady.

04

Meditating, renewing your mind, and acting on the Word builds faith.



SUPPORTING SCRIPTURES

Psalm 119 is known as the "Word of God" chapter with 171 references to God's Word.

Jos. 1:8

Ps. 119:89

Rom. 12:2

I Cor. 3:3

II Cor. 5:7

Heb. 5:14

Ps. 119:165

Faith Promises For Your Health

Isaiah 53:5, James 5:16

Your Father God is inviting you into a love relationship with Him. Through Jesus Christ, you are an heir to all the promises of God, and He always keeps His Word. The term “walk by faith, not by sight” means that you believe God’s Word over circumstances. By faith, highlight and believe these two Bible promises for you and your loved ones regarding your health.

Weigh it What health concerns are you or a loved one dealing with?

Pray it Thank you, Lord, for your healing promises, and teach me to silence any symptoms and natural reports as I put my faith in Your Word. In Jesus’ Name, Amen..

Say it According to Is. 53:5, I am healed and whole.



Jesus wants to be your Healer, not your pharmacist.

Reflection



GREATER THAN

Health > Disease

Because Jesus Is Lord

A photograph of a mountain range, likely the Himalayas, with a red overlay. The mountains are rugged and snow-capped, with a prominent peak in the center. The sky is a deep red, matching the overlay. The overall mood is majestic and serene.

Chapter 6

FAITH IN A PERSON

An all-inclusive resort offers *everything* you need for one premium price. Yes, it's super pricey, but it does give their guests several days of *discovering* their paid-for goodies. Walking with Jesus is the same way. The more you know him, the more goodies you'll discover. And the best thing? It's *paid in full*.

YOUR WORD IS TRUTH JN. 17:17

Highlight these Chapter Six scriptures in your Bible

HEBREWS 3:1

Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus.

HEBREWS 12:2

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.

LOOKING AHEAD

- Is faith a formula?
- Faith *in* Jesus
- Faith *of* Jesus

The Bible breaks hard hearts and heals broken hearts.

Reading scriptures aloud increases comprehension.

FAITH IN A PERSON

Forever, O Lord, Your Word is settled in heaven. Ps. 119:89

Your faith is not in a formula but in the Person of Jesus Christ. We “*look steadfastly and fix our eyes*” on Him because He is our example and the Great Supplier of all we need. The closer you walk with Him, the more He fuels you with His faith, and He has plenty of faith to get the job done!

The Author - He planted a faith seed

You will be relieved to learn that because Jesus is the Author and Developer of your faith, you don't have to muster up your own. He's the One who “*birthed faith within you*” in the first place. The Author. The Originator. He is the One giving you the motivation and determination to do His will. He is birthing and beginning something good in you today. Two translations explain this well:

- *It is God who produces in you the desires and actions that please him. Ph. 2:13 NOG*
- *[Not in your own strength] for it is God Who is all the while effectually at work in you [energizing and creating in you the power and desire], both to will and to work for His good pleasure and satisfaction and delight. Ph. 2:13 AMPC*

What do you desire to do for Jesus? _____

The Developer - He fertilizes

He is also the Developer of your faith, meaning that His Spirit causes you to grow and become more spiritually mature. As we do our part and act on the Word, He is like the Tour Guide who invites you, meets you at the hotel, takes you by the hand to explain each highlight, warns you of the tourist traps, and then pays for the entire trip! We can see this clearly in The Passion Translation:

We look away from the natural realm, and we focus our attention and expectation onto Jesus, who birthed faith within us and who leads us forward into faith's perfection. Heb. 12:2 TPT

Did you realize that He actually “shares” His faith with you? Just as a child lives by his father's care, you are living by the faith of Jesus. Read Paul's secret to having faith here:

I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. Gal. 2:20

Jesus' name has all authority, and He has shared it with you.

A True Story

I prayed for a Discovery Camp camper with severe curvature of the spine. As I prayed, a violent faith rose up in me, and I spoke to that scoliosis as though it was a dog with muddy feet. I felt no anointing nor any goosebumps. Truthfully, I was thinking about how loud the music was, but within thirty minutes the twelve-year-old was on our stage doing a backbend, something she couldn't previously do. Again, it was Jesus' faith in me. Often He just needs a vessel to use.

Your faith is in a Person, and that Person's faith is in you.

Consider Jesus

Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus. Heb. 3:1

Why do you think we should consider Jesus? The Amplified Version says to consider thoughtfully and attentively, so we must do just that. It's inspiring to think that He is the High Priest of our confession.

For example, when you declare a confession of faith, "Heavenly Father, according to Psalm 37:23, thank you for ordering Emily's steps," your High Priest watches over it and causes it to come to pass. He's the High Priest of your confession, so be intentional to declare the Word and give Him something to watch over.

Write your faith confession here: Heavenly Father, according to _____, I declare that

_____ and believe Jesus, My High Priest is watching over this to bring it to pass. In Jesus Name, Amen.

Faith in His Blood

Jesus is developing your faith right now to bring hope and healing to others. Having faith in Jesus releases the faith of Jesus. Highlight and meditate on the life and power of Jesus' blood. It will provide great courage to believe, especially for household salvation and deliverance from demon powers. The blood of Jesus has the power to:

- Redeem us "In Him we have redemption through His blood" Eph. 1:7
- Ransom paid "...the ransom He paid ..was the precious blood of Christ." I Pet. 1:18
- Forgive us "Without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness of sin" Heb. 9:22
- Defeat enemy "And they overcame him (devil) by the blood of the Lamb ..." Rev. 12:11

When you operate in the principles of faith through your private prayers and public declarations,

make much of the Blood!



BY FAITH =
Do the works of Jesus.

Faith in His Name

Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Ph. 2:9-11

Jesus has given you the right to use His name. It is a signed check of the resources of Heaven. That name can break the power of disease and deliver captives of demonic strongholds. No name has ever come to man which this name cannot destroy. Highlight and meditate: *Jn. 14:13-14, Jn. 14:26, J. 16:24, Acts 3:16, Ph. 2:9-10, Heb.2:4*



You have a three-fold right to use the Name of Jesus.

1. You were born into the Family of God, and the Name belongs to the Family.
2. It was conferred upon us by Jesus, Who gave us Power of Attorney.
3. We were commissioned as Ambassadors to go and herald that Name to the nations.

A one-hundred-forty-pound police officer can step in front of an eighteen-wheeler Peterbilt, blow a whistle and make that truck screech to a halt. Why? The truck has power, but the policeman has authority.

Jesus said, *"Behold, I give you authority to tread ... over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall any means harm you."* Lk. 10:19 See TPT!

Faith in His Words

It is a privilege to have Jesus' words recorded for all of us to get to know Him. Let's read and reread the gospels and pay particular attention to how He acted and reacted toward certain people and different scenarios. Take the words of Jesus Christ seriously! Purchase a red-letter edition so you can "Read the red and do what He said." Here are two powerful things He said about His Word(s):

- *Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away. Mat. 24:35*
- *It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life. Jn. 6:63*

The name of Jesus is a signed check of the resources of Heaven.

Faith in His Lordship

When the Scriptures declare that Jesus is Lord, it means He is the Master over absolutely everything in heaven, on earth, and under the earth.

Jesus earned that Lordship in five ways: (*Ph. 2:9-11*)

1. Emptied His divine privileges to become a man
2. He became obedient to death on the cross
3. Defeated death and all demon powers
4. God highly exalted Him to His rightful throne
5. God bestowed on Him the Name

The actual name of Jesus has no magical power. Jesus was a very common name in first-century Israel. Any authority attributed to the name of Jesus originates in the Person of Jesus Christ and His finished work of the risen Christ on the cross. This name, given to Him by the Father, affirms His divinity and supreme authority. When we declare "Jesus is Lord," He shares His name with us and we participate in His authority. You'll know Jesus is your Lord when you quit negotiating and obey promptly. Declare His Lordship over every area of your life today.

Caution: Distracted Faith

Looking away [from all that will distract] to Jesus, Who is the Leader and the Source of our faith ... Heb. 12:3 AMPC

Please hear this word of caution. In the Western church, it's common to practice what I call faith distractions. Selfish and shallow faith, such as fulfilling personal ambitions, can distract you from God's greater purpose. Is it possible to use your faith to "call in" a new house or help your kid win cheerleader? Absolutely! Your Father loves you so profoundly that Matthew 6:33 promises that "all things will be given to you" if you are seeking Him first. Don't apologize for being blessed.

It has been our experience that personal blessings are a byproduct of serving the King. We're not beggars. We are believers. Just keep in mind that in God, there is always a bigger picture. There's a purpose for your prosperity. You've been blessed so that you can be a blessing to others. With the same prevailing faith you believed for your beautiful home, now dedicate it to Him for His purposes. The greater Call is to use your faith to do the works of Jesus and advance His kingdom.

Which would be considered "doing the works of Jesus:"

- Share the good news of the gospel
- Praying and fasting
- Loving ungrateful people
- Support a community of faith
- Forgiving
- Healing the sick
- Teaching God's Word
- Cast out demons
- Caring for orphans and widows

**90% of God's will
is the same for
everyone. Get
busy doing the
works of Jesus.**

Faith Principle #6

Faith is not in a formula but in the Person of Jesus Christ.

FAITH IN A PERSON

01

Faith is not in a formula but in the Person of Jesus Christ.

02

Jesus, our High Priest, watches over our confessions of faith.

03

Learning about Jesus' blood, His name, His Word, and His Lordship builds faith.

04

Jesus earned all authority in heaven and earth and shared it with us.



SUPPORTING SCRIPTURES

Mat. 28:19

Gal. 2:20

Eph. 1:7

Ph. 2:9-11

Heb. 12:2

Heb. 3:1

Faith Promises For Your Finances

Malachi 3:10, Philippians 4:19

Your Father God is inviting you into a love relationship with Him. Through Jesus Christ, you are an heir to all the promises of God, and He always keeps His Word. Our attitude towards money was a common topic of Jesus' parables, and, if we manage finances His way, we will always have more than enough. By faith, highlight and believe these two Bible promises for you and your loved ones regarding finances.

Weigh it

If you'll obey God's instructions on His tithes and offerings, you'll have more than enough.

Do you give grudgingly? _____ Cheerfully? _____ See II Cor. 9:6

Pray it

Jehovah-Jireh, God Who is more than enough, thank you for Your promise of abundance.

Teach me to worship You with my finances. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Say it

According to Philippians 4:19, I believe God will supply all my needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.



Tithing is for past blessings. Offerings are for future blessings.

Reflection



GREATER THAN

Abundance > Lack

Because Jesus Is Lord

Chapter 7

ABRAHAM - OUR FATHER OF FAITH

Our middle child, Peter, planned to *propose* in a hot air balloon to his darling, *Sarah Joy*. The evening before his secret, the balloonist called with the disappointing news that the launch was pending due to *winds* but would call in the morning. By *6 am*, the winds had subsided, but the fog was an issue. We all encouraged Peter to get a *Plan B*, but he replied, **"Faith has no Plan B."**

(The ride was breathtaking, and she said "yes.")

YOUR WORD IS TRUTH JN. 17:17

Highlight these Chapter Seven scriptures in your Bible

ROMANS 4:20-21

He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform.

HEBREWS 6:12

That you do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

LOOKING AHEAD

- Abraham's journey
- Poky promises
- Himpossible!

A Bible is a manual for your faith journey.

Reading scriptures aloud increases comprehension.

ABRAHAM, OUR FATHER OF FAITH

Abraham is one of the most studied and beloved Bible characters, and rightly so. He is known as our Father of Faith because he believed God before he had any evidence of a fulfilled promise and obeyed Him unconditionally. He gave the impossible to Himpossible! Let's look at the six descriptions of Abraham's faith in the favorite Faith Chapter from Hebrews chapter eleven.

#1 Faith Obeys The Call

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. Heb. 11:8

Faith will take you where reason will not go. God's call to this nomadic shepherd included an unusual seven-fold blessing that would eventually extend to you and all the world.

*"Get out of your country, from your family
and your father's house, to a land I will show you.
I will make you a great nation;
I will bless you and make your name great;
And you shall be a blessing.
I will bless those who bless you,
And I will curse those who curse you;
And in you shall all the families of the earth shall be blessed. Gen. 12:1-3*

Faith's road map often requires "going without knowing," but Abram knew God. In fact, there are thirteen of his encounters with God that kept him anchored in his faith. People who "walk by faith, not by sight" are not moved by naysayers or not-so-nice circumstances. The Call leads them out of the norm, out of the natural realm, and into the unlimited realm of the supernatural. They know behind the Call is a Caller, inviting them to participate in His master plan.

Which of these thoughts do you think that Abram or Sarai considered before leaving the security of their home?

- _____ *Am I crazy? Ur is a large, respected city, and my business can flourish here.*
- _____ *How will I feed my family and servants? Is it even responsible of me to require this of them?*
- _____ *Should I not wait and care for my father? Perhaps after he dies, I could obey this strange "something."*
- _____ *(Sarai) It's bad enough that I have no children. So now he wants me to leave the security of home?*
- _____ *(Servants) Abram, there are territorial tribes that will kill us all if we trespass. Please reconsider.*
- _____ *(Sarai) You don't know where you're taking all of us?!!! Have you been in the sun too long?*

Sarah carried the Promise in her spirit before carrying it in her arms.

There are always one-hundred reasons why you should not obey. There is a thin line between common sense and authentic faith, between shirking responsibility and allegiance to God. An actual call is not usually immediate. I've wondered how much time lapsed in between the promise of Genesis 12:3 and the *"And so Abram departed as the Lord had spoken to him"* in Genesis 12:4. Was it three days? Three weeks? Three months? I suspect it was the latter.

"Going without knowing" means you will leave the visible for the invisible, and your faith will override reason. If you're having doubts, you're not ready yet. But, in time, genuine faith will grow into an unexplainable, bold confidence.

For example, after God spoke to Tommy and me about Country Camp, we served in another man's ministry four more years before we moved out by faith. Thank God for a wise husband. We were four years stronger and wiser, yet we still left worried friends and ridiculing relatives behind.

See Addendum page 67 "A Case Study of Abraham."

#2 Faith Follows The Promise

By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise. Heb. 11:9

A promise from the Lord is always the leading factor in your faith journey. Not your circumstances or concerns. Not the need for adventure or escape from responsibility. One promise from God can carry you over every obstacle. Hudson Taylor, the pioneer missionary to China knew faith. He said, "I have eighty-seven cents and all the promises of God."

Doubts and fears may scream in your head, but they can't get the promise out of your heart. In the nighttime, Abram would look at the stars and hear, *"So shall your descendants be."* In the daytime, as sand stretched miles around him, he would hear, *"So shall your descendants be."*

In 1990, Tommy called me when returning from Lagos, Nigeria, and said, *"It's time to begin the Bible School, and you are to be the President."* I had two toddlers and was pregnant with number three.

Promises are often progressive. The Lord's instructions to Tommy and me throughout the history of Texas Bible Institute makes this plain:

- 1990 - *Go home and begin Texas Bible Institute. (Tommy in Lagos, Nigeria)*
- 1991 - *Teach strong foundations for life. (The Lord to Rachel while on a prayer walk)*
- 1992 - *I'm sending you many sons and many daughters. (The Lord to Rachel while on a treadmill)*
- 1993 - *Write curriculum and title it "Foundations-In-Life." (The word of the Lord while in Israel.)*
- 1994 - *Open TBI to international students with scholarships.*
- 2020 - *Rewrite FFL Curriculum for TBI's 30th year and new online courses.*

Faith does not eliminate the questions. It knows where to take them.

We have clung to this promise, and so can you!

Abraham staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, and being fully persuaded that what He had promised He was also able to perform. Rom. 4:20-21

_____ staggered not at the promise of God ... *being fully persuaded that ...*

Your name

#3 Faith and Patience Inherit the Promises

"... for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God." Heb. 11:10

The life of faith isn't always easy. It takes both faith and patience. For example, after Abram left Ur and traveled five hundred miles, he arrived at this promised land just in time for a famine. *"But, God, I thought You said..."* Tribes are living on "his" land, and he and Sarah then waited twenty-five years for God's promise of a miracle son to be fulfilled. What should you do while you're waiting for a fulfillment?

- *Imitate those who, through faith and patience, inherit the promises. Heb. 6:12*
- *Remember those who... have spoken the Word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct. Heb. 13:7*

Whose faith are you following? _____

Godly grandparent? Pastor?

#4 Faith Births The Impossible

By faith Sarah herself also received strength to conceive seed, and she bore a child when she was past the age, because she judged Him faithful who had promised. Heb. 11:11

We're including Sarah's faith moment because Abraham's destiny depended on her obedience. Only two of the sixteen names honored in Hebrew's Hall of Faith belong to women; a harlot and an old woman. Both of them were focused on their families, and God was faithful.

Sarah carried her promise in her spirit before she carried him in her arms. Although Sarah was ninety years old, she gave birth to a miracle baby *"... for the authority of her faith rested in the One who made the promise. Rom. 4:21 TPT* She judged Him faithful who had promised. Amen.

God's pattern for promises can be seen in Genesis 17:1-2. Underline these words in your own Bible; *"I AM ... and I will."* This pattern can be traced throughout the entire Bible. *"I AM and I will... I AM and I will..."* This is another good reminder that you are not following a formula but a Person.

Abraham's thirteen-year-old son, Ishmael, was watching from afar and mocking as the natural plan always does, but *"the just shall live by faith and not draw back." Rom. 1:17, Gal. 3:11, Hab. 2:4*



BY FAITH =

Trusting God

Regardless of reason or feelings

#5 Tested Faith Produces Patience

By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac ... concluding that God was able to raise him up from the dead ...” Heb. 11:17

This story of Abraham offering his miracle son to God as a sacrifice is staggering. A ram in the thicket spared the boy's life, and God multiplied His blessings upon Abraham. God expects us to be willing to offer back what He promised. It keeps your heart pure and your priorities right. The testing of your faith is any thoughts that question the Word, His goodness, or His power.

James 1:2-4 will help you understand what is occurring and how to respond. Your faith is being tried so patience can be developed in your life. Satan's not after your marriage or money; he's after your faith! His success is when you let go, but read these scriptures out loud, and you'll receive instantaneous courage:

- *Seeing then we have a great High Priest, who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. Heb. 4:14*
- *Therefore, do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward. Heb. 10:35*

You Are Abraham's Seed

And if you are Christ's, you are Abraham's seed and heirs according to the promise. Gal. 3:29

Abrahams' seed eventually produced the Lord Jesus Chris, who made possible the way of salvation and made you an heir to the promise. What is that promise?

- The promise of the gospel
- Blessings upon you and your family
- An eternal inheritance in a "city whose builder and maker is God"

Abraham turned the impossible into Himpossible.

He changed the world, and you can do the same.

Faith Principle #7
Faith and patience will inherit the promises.

ABRAHAM - OUR FATHER OF FAITH

01

Abraham is our Father of Faith because of his example of authentic Bible faith.

02

Abraham waited 25 years for his miracle son through faith and patience.

03

Abraham's frequent encounters with the Lord kept his faith strong.

04

God's covenant with Abraham extends to his seed; that's you!



SUPPORTING SCRIPTURES

Gen. 12:1-3

Rom. 4:20-21

Gal. 3:29

Heb. 6:12

Heb. 10:35

Heb. 11:8-17

Faith Promises For Your Family

Joshua 24:15, Proverbs 6:22

Your Father God is inviting you into a love relationship with Him. Through Jesus Christ, you are an heir to all the promises of God, and He always keeps His Word. Have you ever thought that God is a family man? He has experienced the same rejection, betrayal, restoration, and joy that you have. By faith, highlight and believe these two Bible promises for you and your loved ones regarding family.

Weigh it God has given many promises for the complicated relationships within your family. Write your vision for your family. _____

Pray it Good Father, thank you for your promise of love and unity in our family.

Say it According to Rom. 14:19, my family pursues the things which make for peace.



Faith makes it possible. Love makes it easy.

Reflection



GREATER THAN

Love > Strife

Because Jesus Is Lord

Chapter 8

EXPECT A MIRACLE!

You are the *answer* to a hurting world. Give them Jesus. Go into all your world, from the *classrooms* to boardrooms from Wall Street to Main Street, and do the works of Jesus. In a world of *broken* promises, introduce them to your Father and tell them over and over...

He who promised is faithful.

YOUR WORD IS TRUTH JN. 17:17

Highlight these Chapter Eight scriptures in your Bible

HEBREWS 10:23

Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.

EPHESIANS 3:20

Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us.

LOOKING AHEAD

- FAQ Standing in faith
- Faith Extenders
- Your 5-Word Weapon

Obedience to God's Word always brings rewards.

Reading scriptures aloud increases comprehension.

EXPECT A MIRACLE!

Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand...stand, therefore. Eph. 6:13

When you walk by faith and not by sight, you'll enjoy many answered prayers and victories.

Some answered prayers happen quickly, while God seems silent on others.

My father was a good, moral man but felt that his childhood gave him enough religion for the rest of his life. Every Sunday, my mom and two sisters drove off to our Methodist Church and came home to Daddy washing cars and grilling steaks in the driveway. He just didn't need religion and pointed to church hypocrites as an excuse. I stood in faith for my dad's salvation for sixteen years. He finally accepted Jesus as his Savior on a hospital bed on December 8, 1988, and died seven weeks later. In those "having done all" cases, here are two suggestions for what to do between the "Amen" and "There it is."

- Learn how to stand in faith
- Faith Extenders

FAQ About Standing In Faith

Q. Why is God so slow in answering some prayers?

A. 1) People are not responding to His dealings 2) Demonic interference
3) God has something better 4) Not His timing yet

Q. What does "having done all" from Ephesians 6:13 mean?

A. You've tried everything to get your prayer answered.

Q. God hasn't answered my prayer. What more can I do besides pray in faith?

A. Fasting will expedite spiritual discernment and breakthroughs.

Q. What does it mean to stand in faith?

A. A position of the heart that refuses to waver or relinquish God's promise.

Q. What should I do as I'm standing in faith?

A. Memorize and Meditate on God's faithfulness.

Let us hold fast the confession of our faith without wavering, for he is faithful that promised. Heb. 10:23

Standing in faith is what you do between "Amen" and
"There it is!"

Faith Extenders

A faith extender attaches a physical activity to a spiritual promise. It serves as a reminder of God's faithfulness as you wait for the fulfillment of that promise. Here are eight examples of faith extenders:

#1 Who: Abram

Promise: "Arise, walk through the land ...for I will give it to you."

Where: Genesis 13:17

Faith Extender: (Abram) *"Lord, as I walk today, let it serve as a reminder of Your promise to that this land is mine."*

#2 Who: Joshua

Promise: I have given you the city of Jericho.

Where: Joshua 6:1-5

Faith Extender: Joshua marched around Jericho in obedience to God's promise.

"Lord, as I do this, I'm trusting You to do that."

#3 Who: Elijah

Promise: I will break the 3-year drought and give you rain.

Where: I Kings 18:34

Faith Extender: Elijah poured water into the trenches as a seed for the coming rains.

#4 Who: Four friends with a paralyzed man

Promise: Jesus has healed others, so He will heal you.

Where: Mark 2:1-12

Faith Extender: Friends lowered the paralyzed man through the roof.

#5 Who: Blind man

Promise: You will be healed.

Where: John 9:1-7

Faith Extender: The blind man went to wash his eyes in the Pool of Siloam.

"I can't see anything, but as I act upon Your promise, I believe that I'll receive it"

#6 Who: BWO Church Family

Promise: God will help us pay for this land. (2010)

Where: Hebrews 10:23

Faith Extender: Small jars of dirt from the church land were given to the congregation.

"This dirt reminds me of Your promise that our church will be built on debt-free land." (It was!)

#7 Who: Rachel Burchfield

Promise: A miracle grandbaby despite a high-risk pregnancy (2018)

Where: I Peter 2:24

Faith Extender: When announcing their pregnancy, our son and daughter-in-law gave us a onesie that said, "Tiny Wonder." I hung it in my closet, stared at it daily, and stood in faith with them for eight months before embracing a healthy "tiny wonder" baby boy.

God is rarely early, but He's never late.

Heads up! Doubt and Unbelief

Doubt and unbelief are thoughts that hinder your faith in God. They are different but feed on each other. Doubt is questioning what you believe, and unbelief is a determined refusal to believe. Doubt whispers thoughts like, "How do you know that God heard your prayer," while unbelief says, "God didn't hear my prayer."

Doubt: *Yes, they spoke against God; they said, "Can God furnish a table in the wilderness?" Ps. 78:19*

Unbelief: *He could not do any miracles there except lay his hands on a few sick people and heal them. And he was amazed at their unbelief.. (Mark 6:5-6)*

Believers need to be aware of these unwanted visitors of doubt and unbelief because they will stop faith in its tracks. Kick them out! Don't be polite about it, either. The moment a question of doubt arises, do this:

For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ. II Cor. 10:4 -5

We capture, like prisoners of war, every thought and insist that it bow in obedience to the Anointed One. II Cor. 10:5 TPT

Your "Expect A Miracle" Weapon

Have you seen those baseball pitching machines that throw balls out at 75mph? Whether you're ready or not, those balls are coming your way. Unfortunately, negative thoughts are that way, too. Most of your battles will be in your mind, so the Word was given to straighten out your thinking. There is a five-word weapon that I want you to begin saying when those baseball-fast thoughts coming flying at you:

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____ 5. _____

Let us hold fast the confession of our faith without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. Heb. 10:23

Disciples - Unlikely Miracle Workers

Was there any more unlikely tribe of world changers than the disciples of Jesus? Most were illiterate and uneducated with a wide range of psychological concerns:

- Peter was impulsive and given to fits of temper.
- Andrew displayed no evident leadership qualities.
- Thomas questioned everything.
- Alphaeus and Thaddaeus had radical inclinations.
- Matthew revealed a dangerous allegiance to Rome.
- None had the financial backing or political experience to change the world.

What they did have was a fearless faith and unwavering loyalty to the Person of Jesus Christ. Those two ingredients changed their world, and it will change yours, too.

Nothing has changed. Jesus still invites ordinary men and women to follow Him and then fills them with His extraordinary Spirit to perform miracles. Read of *John G. Lake's putting bubonic plague in his hand and doctors watching it die under a microscope. Hear your pastor's challenge to feed the homeless and care for the widows. He's calling you at this very moment to make a difference with your life and make it count for eternity.



BY FAITH =
Because God Said.

The Miracle Worker In You

It's your turn! It's a "whosoever" hour! He's pouring His Spirit out upon whoever will trust Him. This is the Church's finest hour! Expect a miracle! Last Sunday at our church, a six-year-old child prophesied over the microphone. The faith of Jesus is in you to demonstrate God's love and power everywhere you go. He wants to use you "according to your faith" and according to the power that works in you. What power? The power of Jesus Christ. Don't wait for a feeling.

The power of Jesus flows through you when:

- You share the good news.
- You write a Bible study.
- You lay your hands on the sick.
- You talk among your co-workers about Jesus.

Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us. Eph. 3:20

Mix It With Faith And Release His Power

Say these out loud and check whatever applies:

___ I have power working in me right now.

___ I have the power (to bring people to Jesus) working in me right now.

___ I have the power (to heal people) working in me right now.

___ I have the power (to fund the gospel) working in me right now.

___ I have the power (to raise my kids well) working in me right now.

___ I have the power (to make a difference) working in me right now.

Did you check every option? You do have God's power in you *right now* to do the works of Jesus!

So, get out of your comfort zone and walk on the water with Jesus. These Faith Principles are not wobbly words that dissolve in water. On the contrary, they are more solid than a concrete interstate and will hold you up anywhere and anytime. They stand ready to prove God's Word is true and are located six inches below that "water," just one step out of your boat.

*With God, all things are possible.
Matthew 19:26*

* See Addendum, page 67 "Ordinary People, Extraordinary God"

Faith Principle #8
Expect a miracle!

EXPECT A MIRACLE!

01

Standing in faith is your refusal to let go of a personal promise from God.

02

A faith extender is a physical item or action that reminds you of God's promise.

03

Doubt and unbelief won't leave until you kick them out with the Word.

04

Go do the works of Jesus ... He who promised is faithful.



SUPPORTING SCRIPTURES

Num. 23:19

II Cor. 10:5

Eph. 3:20

Eph. 6:13

Heb. 4:14

Heb. 10:23

Faith Promises For Your Church

Matthew 16:18, Ephesians 2:21

Your Father God is inviting you into a love relationship with Him. Through Jesus Christ, you are an heir to all the promises of God, and He always keeps His Word. By faith, highlight and believe these two Bible promises for you and your loved ones regarding your church.

You can be committed to the church, but not committed to Christ, but you can't be committed to Jesus Christ and not committed to His church.

Weigh it

Are you planted and growing in a local church? Why or why not?

Pray it

Faithful Father, help me build what You're building.

Say it

According to Matthew 16:18, the gates of hell will not prevail against our church.



If God is your Father, the church is your mother.

Reflection



GREATER THAN

Together > Isolated

ADDENDUM ANSWER KEY

Chapter	Exercise	Answers
Chapter 2	Jesus' Releases Faith Through His Spoken Word	blindness, bleeding, legion of demons, leprosy, fear, wind and waves, fig tree
Chapter 2	Two Types of Confession	sin, righteousness
Chapter 3	Bible Examples of Seed-Faith Miracles	C, D, A, B
Chapter 4	Two Kinds of Knowledge	senses, Word
Chapter 4	Faith vs. Reason	believes, sees
Chapter 8	Your "Expect A Miracle" Weapon	He who promised is faithful

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BIBLE PROMISES

Let's get a firm grip on the promises that keep us going. He always keeps His Word. Heb. 10:23 Msg.

God's Word is filled with 7,487 promises from God to you. They are as treasures waiting to be discovered and tools for the task of Christian living. Highlight each precious promise in your Bible and put a "P" in the margin.

Acceptance

Ps. 139:17
Eph. 1:6

Addiction(s)

Jn. 8:32
Jn. 14:14

A Miracle

Mt. 18:19
Heb. 13:8

Angels

Ps. 34:7
Ps. 91:11

Answered Prayer

Jer. 33:3
I Jn. 5:14

Bitterness

Mat. 6:14
Heb. 12:15

Blended Families

Prv. 15:1
I Cor. 13:4

Broken Heart

Ps. 34:18
Jn. 14:1

Business

Is. 48:17
Ecc. 5:3

Children

Prv. 22:6
Eph. 6:4

Considering Abortion

Deut. 30:19
Ps. 139:13

Courage

Ps. 46:1
Ps. 27:14

Crisis

Is. 41:10
Ps. 46:1

Difficult Times

Ps. 46:1
Nah. 1:7

Discouraged

Ps. 27:13
Gal. 6:9

Encouragement

Ps. 31:24
Ph. 4:6

Eternal Life

Jn. 3:16
I Jn. 2:25

Fear

II Tim. 1:7
Is. 54:17

Finances

Mal. 3:10
Ph. 4:19

Forgiveness

Eph. 1:7
I Jn. 1:9

Freedom

Jn. 8:36
II Cor. 3:17

Friends

Prv. 18:24
Jn. 15:13

God's Character

Num. 23:19
Is. 55:11

God's Promises

II Cor. 1:20
II Pet. 1:2-4

God's Will

Prv. 3:6
Prv. 16:3

Grieving

Ps. 116:15
I Th. 5:14

Guidance

Ps. 32:8
Ps. 119:105

Guilt

Ps. 103:12
I Jn. 1:9

Healing

Is. 53:5
Mat. 8:17

Heaven

Jn. 14:2
Rev. 7:9

Hell

Mat. 13:42
Rev. 21:8

Hold Fast To The Promises

Jos. 18:3
Heb. 10:23

Homemakers

Prv. 14:1
Titus 2:4

Jesus' Return

I Th. 4:16
Titus 2:13

Loneliness

Is. 41:10
Jn. 14:18

Marital Conflict

I Cor. 13
Eph. 4:32

Marriage

Prv. 18:22
Prv. 19:14

Love

Rom. 5:8
I Jn. 4:19

Lust

Ps. 119:11
Ps. 101:3

Nervous Speakers

Mat. 10:20
Jn. 8:28

Overcoming

II Cor. 2:14
I Jn. 5:4

Parents

Col. 3:21
Eph. 6:4

Patience

Ps. 31:14
Heb. 6:12

Patriotism

Ps. 33:12
II Ch. 7:14

Peace of Mind

Is. 26:3
II Tim. 1:7

Prayers Answered

Jer. 33:3
Jn. 15:7

Prodigals

Job 22:30
II Tim. 2:26

Prosperity

Ps. 35:17
III Jn. 2

Protection

Ps. 91
Is. 54:17

Provision

Ps. 37:25
Mat. 6:33

Receiving the Holy Spirit

Lk. 11:13
Ac. 2:38

Salvation

Rom. 10:13
I Pet. 3:8

Strength

Ps. 31:24
Ps. 68:35

Sufferings

Ps. 34:19
II Tim. 2:3

Sweet Sleep

Ps. 4:4
Ps. 4:8

Temptation

I Cor. 10:13
Jm. 4:7

Unforgiveness

Mat. 5:44
Mat. 6:14

Unsaved Loved Ones

Ac. 16:31
Mat. 5:16

Victory

I Jn. 5:4
II Cor. 2:14

Weight Control

Prv. 23:2
Gal. 5:16

Widows

Ps. 68:5
Is. 54:5

Wisdom

Prv. 8:11
Jm. 1:5

Work

Is. 61:8
Col. 3:23

Worry

Mat. 6:34
Ps. 55:12

Word of God

(Highlight these in your Bible)

Ps. 19:7 - Perfect, converts the soul

Ps. 119:89 - Forever settled in heaven

Ps. 119:105 - A lamp to my feet and a light to my path

Ps. 119:130 - Gives understanding to the simple

Ps. 138:2 - Magnified about Your name

Is. 40:8 - The Word of God stands forever

Is. 55:11 - Never returns void

Mat. 24:35 - My Words will never pass away

Jn. 8:32 - Sets you free

Jn. 17:17 - Thy Word is truth

Rom. 15:4 The Scriptures give hope

II Tim. 3:16 - All Scripture is inspired

Heb. 4:12 - Alive and powerful

Rev. 19:13 - Jesus is called the Word of God

A CASE STUDY ON ABRAHAM

Friend of God and our Father of Faith

Abraham is one of the most studied and beloved Bible characters, and rightly so. He is known as our Father of Faith because he believed God before he had any evidence of a fulfilled promise and obeyed Him unconditionally. He gave the impossible to Himpossible! Let's look at the six descriptions of Abraham's faith in the favorite Faith Chapter from Hebrews chapter eleven.

I. GOD'S PROMISE TO ABRAM

God's Progressive Will for Abram was found in Gen. 12:2-3. List God's 7 promises to him.

1. I will _____.
2. I will _____.
3. I will _____.
4. You shall _____.
5. I will _____.
6. I will _____.
7. And in you _____.

Abram and his wife, _____, traveled 500 miles on foot, endured famine, tribal wars, life threatening altercations, jealousies and fears, but he fulfilled his destiny because he ...

"

_____." *Romans 4:20-21*

II. WHY STUDY ABRAHAM'S STORY?

Of the 2,930 separate people in the Bible, why should we know Abraham's story?

1. Known as the friend of God. Is. 41:8
2. Revered as our Father of Faith and demonstrated how to believe God. Rom. 4:11
3. Genesis has 50 chapters. Two chapters describe the Creation story, but 39 chapters include stories of Abraham and his family.
4. God entered into an eternal covenant with him that affects us today.
5. The gospel of Jesus Christ, our only hope for eternal life, came through Abraham's Seed.
6. Hebrews Ch. 11 "Hall Of Faith" names 16 people. Abraham is given almost half the space; twice that allocated to Moses, the Law-Giver.

III. ABRAM'S MULTIPLE GOD ENCOUNTERS UNVEIL GOD'S PROGRESSIVE WILL.

God's perfect will for Abram was to know Him, so every recorded encounter is significant. As a result of knowing Him, however, a progressive plan unfolded which changed the world. List who Abram had encounters with and what occurred. Notice the distinction between the LORD or the Lord.

TBI Challenge: It will take 37 minutes to read Abraham's story from *Genesis Ch. 12-25* in a Bible paraphrase such as the New Living Translation (NLT) or The Living Bible. (TLB)

Gen. 12:1	_____	_____
Gen. 12:7	_____	_____
Gen. 12:8	_____	_____
Gen. 13:14-18	_____	_____
Gen. 13:18	_____	_____
Gen. 15:1-2	_____	_____
Gen. 15:4	_____	_____
Gen. 15:5-18	_____	_____
Gen. 17:1	_____	_____
Gen. 18:1	_____	_____
Gen. 18:17	_____	_____
Gen. 22:1	_____	_____
Gen. 22:14-18	_____	_____

It was Abraham's multiple encounters with the Lord which gave him the courage and guidance to allow God's progressive will to unfold. **Had Abraham not taken time to frequently meet with God, he would have become a nomadic, old shepherd with a bitter, unfulfilled wife, but, instead, their faith in God changed the world.**

ORDINARY PEOPLE, EXTRAORDINARY GOD

You are standing on the shoulders of some great people who are cheering you on from the Other Side. Among my favorites are ...

Amy Carmichael - (1867 - 1951) *Missionary to India for 55 years*

Amy was born into a wealthy family in Ireland, but at 18, her father's business suffered, and he died, throwing her family into poverty. At 28, the Missionary Society of the Church of England sent her to India. She learned the Tamil language, wore a sari, and dyed her skin dark with tea bags and coffee. She took no furloughs home. She was never married. Instead, she became Amma (Mother) to 1,000 girls she rescued from Hindu temple prostitution.

Favorite Quotes:

- *It's safe to trust Him who fulfills the desire that He creates.*
- *You can give without loving, but you can't love without giving.*
- *Bring a strong sense of humor and no sense of smell. (Advice to a missionary candidate)*

William Carey - (1761 - 1834) *The Father of Modern Missions*

William was a shoemaker by trade, but a scholar, linguist, and missionary by God's training. He wrote "Enquiry" - a groundbreaking missions manifesto and masterpiece for modern missions. His first seven years in India yielded no convert. He founded a college and translated the Scriptures into 40 languages. He paved the way for modern missions through his writing. He was known as "God's Plodder," burying three wives and three small children.

Favorite Quotes:

- *I can plod.*
- *Expect great things from God. Attempt great things for God.*
- *I'm not afraid of failure. I'm afraid of succeeding at things that don't matter.*

Edward Kimball - (1823 - 1901) *A volunteer Sunday School teacher*

A concerned church volunteer taught a small class of boys. He reached a wayward kid named Dwight Moody who reached Wilbur Chapman who reached a famous baseball player for the Lord by the name of Billy Sunday who reached a dignified gentleman named Mordecai Ham who reached a sandy-haired teen named "Billy Frank" who is better known as Billy Graham whose estimated lifetime audience topped 2.2 billion in 2008. Keep volunteering!

John G. Lake - (1870 - 1935) *Apostle to Africa, Healing Revivalist*

John G. Lake went as a missionary to Africa in 1908. The deadly bubonic plague broke out in his area and hundreds died. Doctors asked him how he could remain alive while working so closely with diseased people and he explained, "The Law of the Spirit of Life had set him free from the law of sin and death." When they ridiculed his faith, Lake challenged them to watch the disease die under a microscope when put in the palm of his hand. As predicted, the bubonic plague sputum when placed in his palm died instantly and many came to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. Upon his return to America, there were no less than 100,000 astounding miracles of healing through his healing rooms.

Favorite Quotes:

- *In Christ, we become God's son, man's servants, and devil's masters.*
- *For the sake of a dying, suffering world, count the cost, pay the price and set the captives free.*
- *When I saw for the first time by the Word of God that sickness was not the will of God, everything in my nature rose up to defeat the will of the devil.*

Eric Liddell - (1902 - 1945) *Olympian Gold Medalist, Missionary to China*

Eric's parents were Scottish missionaries. Known as the "Flying Scotsman," his success over the 400m race in 1924 was legendary, but his coaches were distraught when Eric refused to run on a Sunday. He was later captured and sent to Weixian Japanese Internment Camp, where 1,800 people shared 23 toilets. He died at 43 years of age, giving great courage and leadership to other prisoners, and died at 43 years of age. A 1981 movie, Chariots of Fire, tells his story of conviction and courage.

Favorite Quotes:

- *I'm running for a different Prize.*
- *God made me fast. And when I run, I feel His pleasure.*

George Mueller - (1805 - 1898) *Built orphanages by prayer instead of fundraising*

George Mueller was a pastor in England whose faith in God required him to no longer share any financial needs. Only God knew his needs, but he distributed over eight million dollars, built five orphan houses that housed 2,000 at a time and reached 10,000 children. When he died at 93, his worldly possessions were valued at \$800. Stories of miracle provision will thrill you!

Favorite Quotes:

- *Faith does not operate in the realm of the possible. Faith begins where man's power ends.*

Dwight L. Moody - (1837 - 1899) *The shoe salesman became the most influential evangelist of the 19th century*

Poor and uneducated but unashamed of the gospel. His father died when D.L. was only 4, leaving a wife and nine children. At 17, he moved to Boston and became a cobbler and shoe salesman. Described as "overweight, neckless, bearded, and crazy as a March hare," yet became superstar status. He became an educator and founded a school, a church, and Moody Bible Institute. Read his wife, Emma's, story to see a powerful example of a godly wife.

Favorite Quotes:

- *Faith makes all things possible ... love makes all things easy.*
- *God never made a promise that was too good to be true.*
- *Many of us are willing to do great things for the Lord, but few of us are willing to do little things.*

Charlotte Diggs "Lottie" Moon - (1840 - 1912) *The Southern Bell who became a missionary to China with the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board*

Dr. T. L. Osborn - (1923 - 2013) World missionary evangelist who, along with his wife, Daisy, was most known for his mass-miracle ministry to millions. Our personal friend. Guest speaker for the dedication of Believers World Outreach Church in 2006.

Favorite Quotes:

- *Proclaim Christ and pray for miracles as proof that He is alive.*

Charles Studd - (1860-1931) *Famous cricket player turned missionary*

Charles was a household name in England. One of the famous Cambridge Seven who left fame and fortune to join Hudson Taylor in China. When he was 25 years old and inherited \$25 million, he gave it away to Moody, Mueller, Booth, etc. He was a Pentecostal Evangelist in China, India, and Africa for 37 years. Over 2,000 Congolese attended his funeral.

Favorite Quotes:

- *Only one life will soon be passed. Only what's done for Christ will last.*
- *Some want to live within the sound of church or chapel bell; I want to run a rescue shop within a yard of hell.*

Dr. Hudson Taylor - (1858-1870) *Father of Faith Missions - Pioneer missionary to China for 51 years*

Left for China at 21 years of age and eventually married and buried two wives and five of his eight children. Founded China Inland Missions which built 205 preaching stations, 849 missionaries, and 125,000 Chinese Christians responded to the gospel through a Chinese Bible he had translated.

Favorite Quotes:

- *There are three great truths. 1) There is a God. 2) He has spoken to us through the Bible. 3) He means what He says.*
- *God is not looking for men of great faith. He is looking for common men to trust His great faithfulness.*
- *There are three stages in the work of God: impossible, difficult, done.*
- *God's work done in God's way will never lack God's supply.*
- *I have .87 cents and all the promises of God.*

Corrie Ten Boom - (1892 - 1983) *Holocaust survivor who rescued 800 Jews in an underground network*

The first licensed watchmaker in Holland whose family operated an underground network rescuing Jewish neighbors during the Nazi occupation. Tortured in the dreaded Ravenbruck concentration camp for one year. Led nightly worship services under the radar and released on January 1, 1945, on a "clerical error." One week later, every woman her age and older was executed. She spent 30 years teaching on the power of forgiveness. A movie of her courageous story is called "The Hiding Place." Corrie never married and died on her 91st birthday.

Favorite Quotes:

- *You can never learn that Christ is all you need until Christ is all you have.*
- *Don't bother to give God instructions, just report for duty.*
- *It's not my ability, but my response to God's ability that counts.*

Frances Ward - (1915 - 2000) - Lovingly known as my spiritual mother, "Mama Ward" was famous with God, but not people. She met Christ as a bright, young woman and married F. E. Ward, a fifth-grade drop-out and recovering alcoholic. The mismatch made no sense, except they shared the same passion for obeying God and eventually served 20 years in missionary/miracle ministry in Puerto Rico. He moved so strongly in the Gift of Miracles that, much to Papa Ward's dismay, villagers bowed down to him. Upon their return to Houston, she opened her tiny home for a Tuesday night Bible study that gathered approximately 20 young adults; a Bible School in disguise. She seemed as an ordinary gray-haired woman until she prayed. I can still hear her praying in her garage-turned-prayer-room, "*building fires for the days ahead.*" Humbly, I am one of her flames.

Favorite Quotes:

- *It's amazing what God can do all by Himself.*

Wives and mothers of immeasurable support:

- **Biddy Chambers** - When Oswald Chambers died at 43 with a ruptured appendix, his wife, Biddy, spent 10 years compiling his writings to create *My Utmost For His Highest*, one of the all-time favorite devotional books. Although her pre-marriage desire was to be the secretary for England's Prime Minister, God used her extraordinary shorthand skills for the real King.
- **Susannah Wesley** - Read of her commitment to be a woman of prayer and homemaker to her 19 children, two of whom were founders of the Methodist Church, while others influenced for God through politics.
- **Susie Spurgeon** - Read of her "settled purpose" to be a source of strength to her husband and his Call. She was keenly aware of her role and responsibility as a pastor's wife as her famous husband, Charles Spurgeon, battled depression for most of his life.

- Katharina Von Bora was a 26-year-old nun who escaped from her convent in a herring barrel and married a 42-year-old professor and ex-monk, Martin Luther. Although the story sounds scandalous, they adored each other, and everyone knew that Martin's beloved Katie was the secret weapon behind the famous reformer.
- Ruth Graham - Born to medical missionary parents in China, she begged God to let her be a missionary. Instead, she married Billy Graham who became an internationally respected evangelist. Learn how she learned to overcome loneliness and prepared for a "lifetime of goodbyes."

Tommy and Rachel Burchfield - Reading our story in *Miracle Moments, A Manual For Miracles* will introduce you to some of the miracles we experienced during our first thirty years of ministry. Twelve Life Lessons reveal some foundational truths we stood on while building a marriage, a family, a large camp, an international Bible School, and a world church. God brought half a million children, teens, and adults to experience the power of Jesus! We are humbled to think that we, along with our devoted staff, have hosted a sustained move of God for thirty years and counting.

39 States

TBI WORLD ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

42 Countries

Dedicated to our Sons and Daughters in the Texas Bible Institute World Alumni Association

May God continue to use you to share the good news of Jesus Christ in your nation!

English

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. John 3:16

Spanish

Porque tanto amó Dios al mundo que ha dado a su hijo unigénito, que todo aquel que cree en él no debe pierda, mas tenga vida eterna. Juan 3:16

Arabic

لما احب الله العالم اذ لم

Amharic (Ethiopia)

ከግዚአብሔር ዓለምን ወደታልና

Belize Creole

Yu si, Gaad lov di peepl dehn eena dis werl soh moch

Bengali (India)

কারণ ঈশ্বর জগৎকে এমন প্রমে করলিনে যে

Bulgarian

Защото Бог толкова възлюби света

Chamorro (Guam)

Sa taegüenao na jaguaeya si Yuus y tano

French

Car Dieu a tant aimé le monde

German

Denn also hat Gott die Welt geliebt

Haitian Creole

Paske, Bondye sitèlman renmen lèzòm

Hausa (Nigeria)

Gama Allah ya yi kamnar duniya

Hebrew

כי ככה יאהב את העולם

Hindi (India)

परमेश्वर को जगत से इतना प्रेम था

Hungarian

Mert úgy szerette Isten e világot

Japanese

神は世を愛された

Jamaican Creole

Kaa, yu si, Gad lov di worl so moch

Korean

신이 세상을 너무 사랑했기 때문에

Mandarin Chinese

神愛世人

Maori (New Zealand)

Koia ano te aroha o te Atua ki te ao

Romanian

Fiindcă atât de mult a iubit Dumnezeu lumea

Russian

Ибо так возлюбил Бог мир

Setswana (Botswana)

Gonne Modimo o ratile lefatshe mo go kalo

Swahili

Kwa maana jinsi hii Mungu aliupenda ulimwengu

Tagalog (Philippines)

Sapagkat pag ibig ng Diyos sa sanlibutan

Tamil (Sri Lanka/India)

தவேன் இவ்வளவு உலகத்தில் அன்புகூர்ந்தார்

Thai

เพราะว่าพระเจ้าทรงรักโลก

Ukrainian

Так бо Бог полюбив світ

Foundations-For-Life Reference Tools

Stand-Alone Teachings, Topical Index, Illustrations

The Foundations-For-Life curriculum serves as a reference tool for TBI Alumni and Christian leaders of all ages. The reader has permission to use these materials in any way that develops a healthy lifestyle and Christian growth. For printed purposes, please cite your reference as *Burchfield, Rachel, Foundations-For-Life, 2022.*

Ten Workbooks, 80+ Pages Each

- **115 Stand-Alone Teachings**
- **200 Indexed Topics**
- **65 Supplemental Charts/Lists**
- **40 Illustrations for Sermons**
- **40 Personal Stories**
- **80 Devotionals**

Stand-Alone Teachings

Volume One - Strong-In-Life Choices	Page	Volume Four - Who We Are In Christ	Page
- Ten Attributes of a Disciple (The One Choice)	3	- An Intro - Who We Are in Christ	4-5
- Eight Reasons A Correct Worldview Is Important	5	- The Miracle Mirror	5
- Humanistic vs. Biblical Worldview	6	- The Divine Exchange	8
- Four Questions To Develop a Christian Worldview	6	- Spirit, Soul, Body	11
- Five "Musts" to Choose a Christian Worldview	11	- What Happened At The Fall Of Man?	13
- Six Competing Worldviews	12	- Understanding Confessions Of Faith	19
- Five Lies That Keep You Stuck	20	- Six FAQ About The New Birth	27
- Four Signs You Need Resilience	21	- Four Facts About The New Creation	28
- Building Blocks For Resilience	22	- Ten Things About The New You	30
- Eight Reasons For Personal Convictions	35	- Understanding Righteousness (Turkey/Eagle)	35
- Five Signs Of A Seared Conscience	36	- Four Pictures of Righteousness	38
- Five Questions In Choosing Convictions	38	- Healing Explained In Four Sentences	43
- Four Counterfeits To Biblical Marriage	44	- Five Things Jesus Overcame For You	51
- Preparing For A Biblical Marriage	46	- Six Things Jesus Did For You	54
- Five Reasons Accountability Is Important	51	- Let God Use You! (Five "Prepares")	59
- Three Types Of Accountability	51	- Six FAQ About Biblical Meditation	60
- Christian Worldview Of Success	60	Volume Five - Recognizing God's Voice	
- Seven Attributes Of True Success	62	- The "What" Behind This Voice	5
Volume Two - Following Jesus		- Ps. 19 - The Creator's Silent Sermons	11
- What Being Born Again Is And Is Not	5	- Four Ways To Prepare Your Heart	12
- Four Reasons Why You Need A Savior	5	- 20 Ways God Speaks To You Today	19
- Five Evidences of True Salvation	6	- Three Ways God Speaks Through His Word	20
- Why Water Baptism?	11	- Four Facts About God's Voice	23
- Lordship - Five Descriptions	13	- Six FAQs About The Believer's Inward Witness	28
- Eight Rewards For Obedience	14	- The Inward Witness (Four Facts)	31
- Six FAQ About The Anointing	30	- Four Facts About The Confirming Voice	47
- Sermon on the Mount Facts	35	- The Truth vs. Deception Test	53
- Top Ten Topics Jesus Taught	37	- Four Facts About Deception	55
- Six Types Of Prayer	51	- Four Tips To Develop A Quiet Heart	59
- Five Victories Jesus Won For You	60	Volume Six - God's Great Love	
- 15 Reasons To Follow Jesus	67	- Four Facts About Identity	3
- Eight Attributes Of A Disciple	68	- Ten Descriptions Of Your Father's Love	5
- From the Cross to the Throne	71	- Human Love Vs. God's Love	12
Volume Three - Bible Basics		- Eight Pathways To Healing	13
- Five Ways the Bible is Superior	3	- Redemption Requires Blood	21
- Eight Reasons You Can Trust Your Bible	5	- Two Types Of God's Restoring Love	28
- Make Much of the Blood	13	- *What To Say To A Victim	30
- Four Plots (Themes) About The Bible	13	- Five Tips For Dealing With Depression	36
- Ten Doctrines of the Bible	22	- Four Ways God's Inspired Word Profits You	46
- 12 Historical Highlights of the Old Testament	28	- Delivered From Shame	53
- Five Types of Bible Study	61	- Six Facts About Compassion	60
- Eight Devotionals - Descriptions of the Word	8	- Eight Devotionals - Emotional Needs	8

Volume Seven - How To Study The Bible

- *The Bible Story At A Glance	3
- *Old Testament Review	4
- *New Testament Review	4
- Three Ways To Enjoy Your Bible	5
- Ten Reasons To Memorize God's Word	7
- *Books of the Bible Chart	8
- Ten Reasons You Can Trust Your Bible	14, 79-82
- Checklist To Accept Old and New Testaments	16-17
- 11 Laws To Interpret the Bible (Hermeneutics)	23-24
- The Seven Dispensations Of Man	23
- How To Choose A Study Bible (Four Questions)	26
- Five Types of Bible Study	31
- How To Study A Bible Book	32-35
- *A Book-by-Book Bible Review	36
- How To Study A Bible Chapter	41-43
- *The Golden Chapters	44
- How To Study A Bible Verse	49-52
- How To Study A Bible Character	57-60
- How To Study A Bible Topic	65-68
- Bible Glossary	72-76
- Does The Bible Have Contradictions?	77
- A Bible Comparative Chart	86
- Eight Devotionals - Bible Reading Excuses	10

Volume Eight - Strong-For-Life Relationships

- The Seven Benefits of Good Relationships	5
- Six Signs Of A Healthy Relationship	12
- Four Building Blocks For Relationships	13
- Relational Red Flags	19
- Breaking An Abusive Cycle	22
- Ten Facts About Anger	27
- Seven Types Of Anger	27
- Ten Facts About Forgiveness	35

Volume Eight - Strong-For-Life Relationships, cont.

- Forgiveness Review	39
- Resolving Family Conflict	47
- Managing Your Emotions	51
- Six Benefits Of Healthy Boundaries	53
- A Guide For Singles	55
- Ten Tips To Guard Your Marriage	62
- Eight Devotionals - "How We ____ Matters"	8
- <i>See Navy Triangles for Fruit of the Spirit info</i>	

Volume Nine - Faith Principles

- Six Descriptions Of Faith	5
- The Seven Compound Names Of God	19
- The Rewards of Faith	20
- The Two Types Of Christians	35
- How To Develop A Word-Ruled Lifestyle	35
- Abraham's Five Faith Moments	50
- FAQ About Standing In Faith	58
- Faith Extenders	59
- Eight Devotionals - Bible Promises	8

Volume Ten - Discovering God's Will

- Biographies of Christian Heroes	3,46
- Seven Misconceptions About The Will Of God	5
- The Three-Fold Will Of God	6
- *Abraham and God's Will	14
- God's Nine Compound Names	21
- Quit Praying This Prayer	30
- God's Will Regarding Healing	36
- The P-16 Formula	44
- Three Words That Unlock God's Will	45
- When You Don't Know What To Do	51-54
- General Truths About God's Will	59-60
- God's Sovereign Will	66
- Scriptures About God's Will	67

Topical Index

*Charts, Lists, Poems, Narratives

Topic	Volume	Page	Topic	Volume	Page
Abraham	9	50-54	Bible Interpretation	7	23-24
* A Case Study	9	67-68	* Bible Glossary	3 / 7	67, 72-76
Abuse	6 / 8	30 / 20-23	Bible - Secular Evidence	3 / 7	6 / 14
Accountability	1	51-55	Bible Memorization	7	7
Acts, Book of	3	37	Bible Prophecy	7	14, 80
* Acts Facts	2	62	Bible Promises	9	55-56, 65
Agape Love	6 / 8	67 / 60	Eternal Life	9	8
* Human Love vs. Agape	6	12	Forgiveness	9	16
* An Amazing Truth	6	66	Guidance	9	24
Ambition	1 / 10	63 / 19	Protection	9	32
American Dream	1	13	Health	9	40
Angels	5	37	Finances	9	47
Anger	8	26-31	Family	9	55
Anointing	2	30	Church	9	63
Apostles	3 / 7	5 / 14	Bible Reading	3 / 7	8 / 5
Baptism in Holy Spirit	2	29	* Golden Chapters of Bible	3 / 7	72 / 44
Bible Basics	3	76	* A Letter From Heaven	7	85
Bible Contradictions?	7	77	Bible Reading Excuses		
Bible Doctrines	3	22	I'm not the studying type.	7	10
Bible's Inspiration	3 / 7	3 / 13-14	I don't have time.	7	20
*Ten Reasons To Trust Your Bible	7	14, 79-82	I don't understand the Bible.	7	28
			I don't know where to start.	7	38
			What if I get it wrong?	7	46

Topic	Volume	Page	Topic	Volume	Page
Bible Reading Excuses, cont.			Dead Sea Scrolls	7	26
The Bible isn't relevant.	7	54	Diet	6	40
I can't live up to it. Why try?	7	62	Discipleship	1 / 2 / 3	3 / 13 / 48
Been there. Done that.	7	70	* 15 Reasons to Follow Jesus	2	67
Bible Story	3 / 7	11-15, 3	* Eight Attributes of a Disciple	2	68
* The Bible Story	3	73	* Fast Facts for Jesus Followers	2	70
* The Bible Story at a Glance	7	3	* Resume of Disciples - funny	2	72
* Golden Chapters	7	44	* I Am A Disciple	2	73
Bible Structure	3 / 7	27,35 / 4	Divorce	1 / 6	44 / 27-28, 31, 67
Bible Study Types	3 / 7	61 / 31,37	Deception	5	49-56
* Bible Comparative Charts	7	86	Dispensations	7	23
Bible Study Methods	7	88	* Dispensations of Man	3	70
Inductive Bible Study	7	33-35	Divine Order	8	59
Color-Coding	7	42	Dreams	5	35-36
Bible Marking System	7	43	Emotions	4 / 8	9-12 / 51
Word-Studies	7	50-51	Eschatology	3	38, 46
Verse Mapping	7	52	* Bible Timeline For Future Events	10	66
Outlining	7	57-59	Faith Principles	9	74
Cross-Referencing	7	65	Author and Finisher	9	42
Bible Timeline	7	25	Description of	9	5-6
* A Bible Timeline	7	83-84	How Faith Works	9	11-12
* From The Cross To The Throne	2	71	Seed-Faith Miracles	9	22-23
Biographies	3 / 9 / 10	3 / 46 / 56	Faith Extenders	9	59
* TBI Alum One-Liners	2	vi	Rewards of Faith	9	20
* Ordinary Ppl., Extraordinary God	9	69-72	Faith Building Songs	4	67
Boundaries	8	13, 53	Family	8	13, 41-47, 54
Blood of Jesus	3 / 6	13 / 21-22	* The A-B-Cs of Faith Focused Families	8	66-67
Bitterness	8	30	Favor	6	56
Born Again	2 / 4	5 / 26-31	Forgiveness	6 / 8	16 / 33-40
Character	1 / 7	35 / 60	Freedom	4 / 6	50-56 / 19, 24
Choices	1	72	* The Way Out	6	24
Church	2	61-64	Fruit of the Spirit	8	8
* The 59 One Anothers	8	68-69	See navy triangles	8	8,16,24,32, 40,48, 56,64
Church Fathers	7	14, 17, 79	Guilt	6	16, 24
* Quotations of ...	7	80	God's Great Love	6	73
Compassion	6	60-64	Ten Descriptions of	6	5
Compound Names Of God	9	19	Redeeming Love	6	19
Compromise	1	35-39,41	Restoring Love	6	27
Confessions of Faith	4 / 9	19,64 / 12-14	Chastening Love	6	43
* 30 Things God Says	4	66	Compelling Love	6	59
* 14 Scriptures To Pray Over Your Children	4	68	Evil Vs. Good	6	66
* 14 Scriptures To Pray Over Your Future	4	69	Eight True Stories by Rachel	6	70-71
Concordance	7	49-51	Healing	2 / 4	26-28, 69 / 41-48
Confirmations	5	43-44	* Jesus' 27 Healings	4	46
Convictions (personal)	1	33-40	* Real People, Real Miracles	2	74
Social Drinking	1	37, 66-67	* FAQ About Healing	10	36
Social Media	1	51-53	Holy Spirit		
Complaining	1	37	Baptism of H.S.	2	29, 31
Nightclubs	1	38	Speaking in Tongues	2	29, 32
Sexual Purity	1 / 8	40 / 61	Anointing	2	30
Marriage	1 / 8	43-48 / 58-64	Gifts of Holy Spirit	5	36
Honoring Parents	8	54, 64	Homosexuality	1	44-45, 68-70
Finances	1	57-63	Honor	8	54, 64
Courage	1	35	Identity in Christ	4	4-7, 64
Council of Carthage	7	17	* The Divine Exchange	4	8
Covenants	3	21	* "In Christ" Scriptures	4	48
* Contrast of Covenants	3	66	* 30 Things God Says	4	66
Dating	1 / 8	52 / 56	Insecurity	6	16

Topic	Volume	Page	Topic	Volume	Page
Inward Witness	5	26-32	Redemption	6	19-24
Jesus Christ, <i>Following</i>	2	76	<i>*The Sailboat</i>	6	68
Savior	2	2-7	Regret	1	17-24
Lord	2	9-15	Rejection	6	5-8
The Word	2	18-25	Relationships	8	v, 4-7, 80
Miracle Worker	2	26-32, 69	Resilience	1	17-24
Teacher	2	34-40, 69	<i>* Building Blocks For Resilience</i>	1	22
Servant	2	41-47	Restoration	6	25-32
High Priest	2	50-55	Rhema Word	9	20
Risen King	2	58-63, 71	Righteousness	4	40
Seven "I AMs"	2	37	Salvation	1 / 2	2-3 / 5-8
<i>* Jesus In Every Bible Book</i>	3	74	<i>* What Does Choosing Jesus Mean?</i>	1	3
<i>* Healings / Miracles of Jesus</i>	2 / 4	69 / 46	Seared Conscience	1	36
<i>* Parables of Jesus</i>	2	69	Sermon on Mount.	2	35
Kindness	8	46	Serving	2	41-48
Life Skills	1	27-31	Sexual Abuse	1 / 6 / 8	22 / 30 / 20-21
<i>* Decision Making</i>	1	27	<i>* The Cycle of Abuse</i>	8	20
Listening	8	24	Shame	1 / 6	20-24 / 16, 24, 53
Logos	9	20	Single, <i>Unmarried</i>	1 / 8	46 / 49-56
Lordship	2	13	Spirit, Soul, Body	4 / 5	9-16 / 28
Marriage	1 / 8	43, 47 / 57-64	<i>* The Cousins' Parable</i>	4	14
Masturbation	1 / 8	51-52, 53	Spiritual Warfare	2 / 10	21-23 / 38
Mental Health Issues	6		Strife	8	44-47
Abandonment	6	13-14	Submission	8	13, 59-61
Anxiety	6	14	Success	1 / 10	58-64 / 19
Depression	6	36	Temptation	2 / 4	20 / 49-56
Shame	1 / 6	24 / 16, 53	Tetelestai, <i>Paid in full</i>	4	51
<i>* Paid In Full</i>	6	69	Tongues, <i>Speaking in</i>	2	29, 32
Miracles	2 / 5	25-27 / 35-37	Types & Shadows	3	49-55
<i>* Miracles of Jesus Overview</i>	2	28	Victory	2 / 4	60 / 64
<i>* Lists of Jesus Miracles</i>	2	69	Visions	5	36
<i>* Real People, Real Miracles</i>	2	74	Voice, <i>Hearing God's</i>	5	72
New Birth	4	25-31	<i>* My "I've-Heard-From-God" Checklist</i>	5	61-62
New Creation	4	31	<i>* 21 True Stories by Rachel</i>	5	66-70
<i>* The Funeral</i>	4	32	Water Baptism	2	9-15
Obedience	2 / 6	13-14 / 42-48	Who We Are In Christ	4	71
Offense	8	43-44	<i>* The Divine Exchange (D. Prince)</i>	4	8
Overcomer	4	50-56	<i>* Two Mirrors</i>	4	16
<i>* A Punchy Poem With A Potent Point</i>	6	62	<i>* In Christ Scriptures</i>	4	48
Parables	2	38	<i>* 30 Things God Says About You</i>	4	66
<i>* The Parables Listed</i>	2	69	Wholeness	8	11-12
Parents	2 / 8	13 / 54, 64	Will of God	10	31, 44, 51, 59, 75
Peacemakers	8	43-46	<i>* Seven Misconceptions About God's Will</i>	10	5
Pornography	1 / 8	51-54 / 61	<i>* Ten Absolutes About God's Will</i>	10	61
Prayer	2 / 9 / 10	50-56 / 28 / 30	<i>* Scriptures - God's Will</i>	10	67
Prophecy	3 / 7	6, 38 / 80	Word-Ruled Lifestyle	2 / 9	21 / 36-37
Protection	3 / 9	49-56 / 32	Word of God	3 / 7	2-4 / 12-15
Rachel's Stories			<i>* God's Word Summarized</i>	2	71
<i>* From The President's Desk</i>		iii	<i>* Four Benefits Of God's Word</i>	6	46
<i>* Born To Be Wild</i>	2	64	<i>* 14 Descriptions Of God's Word</i>	9	66
<i>* Raised From The Dead</i>	2	25	Worldview	1	9-15
<i>* Tommy's Journey</i>	4	62	<i>* What Is A Worldview?</i>	1	4
<i>* Rachel's Cheerleader Song</i>	4	62	<i>* Humanistic vs. Biblical Worldview</i>	1	6
<i>* 21 True Stories / God's Voice</i>	5	66-70	<i>* Christian Worldview Of Success</i>	1	60
<i>* Eight Ex. of Chastening Love</i>	6	70-71	Worship	10	68
<i>* A Rhema In A Graveyard</i>	9	21	<i>* I Am A Worshiper</i>		
<i>* The Performer's Promise</i>	9	22	Wrath of God	2	6
<i>* We Know What To Do</i>	9	27	<i>* Love Thoughts From Your Father</i>	6	67
<i>* They Said "No," But God Said "Yes"</i>	9	29			
<i>* Scoliosis Healed</i>	9	43			
<i>* Faith Unfolds As You Obey</i>	9	51			

Illustrations

Topic	Title	Volume/Page	Summary
Choices	<i>Eight "Great Day" Choices</i>	1 / 1	Our lives and our eternity are based on our choices.
Brainwashed	<i>Brainwashed</i>	1 / 9	Evaluate info by God's Word, not popular consensus.
* Compromise	<i>How To Boil A Frog</i>	1 / 41	Compromise is so gradual that it often goes unnoticed.
* Contentment	<i>Acres of Diamonds</i>	1 / 57	After a man sold his farm to pursue wealth, diamonds were discovered.
Sin	<i>The Sin Virus</i>	2 / 8	A computer virus causes billions of dollars of damage.
Die To Self	<i>Mistake at the Morgue</i>	2 / 16	Funny. What it means to "die to self."
* Tongues	<i>Cannibals</i>	2 / 32	True story - Speaking in tongues saved a missionary's life.
Words of Jesus	<i>Words</i>	2 / 33	The words of Jesus are the most important words.
Who You Are In Christ	<i>The Mystery Man</i>	2 / 57	The peasant girl married a king, gaining his name and kingdom.
Bible Study	<i>Fools Gold</i>	3 / 8	Stats about California's 1849 Gold Rush (Psalm 19:11)
Trust God	<i>The Center Of Everything</i>	3 / 17	The central message of the Bible is the center verse.
Who You Are In Christ	<i>The Miracle Mirror</i>	3,4 / 40,16	God's Word is as a mirror reflecting your inner man.
Understand Your Bible	<i>Don't Forget The Oil</i>	3 / 49	The oil of the Holy Spirit makes your Bible come alive.
Habits	<i>The Secret To Success</i>	3 / 57	Our daily habits will make us or break us.
Identity in Christ	<i>Rewards of Identity</i>	4 / 1	Rewards belong to those whose identity is in Christ.
Guidance	<i>God's GPS</i>	4 / 9	God guides believers through their spirit man.
Faith's Confession	<i>Clean and Strong</i>	4 / 17	Confession of sin + confession of faith = clean + strong
Inward Witness	<i>Fully Charged</i>	4 / 25	Your inward man is like swallowing a cell phone.
Righteousness	<i>Daddy's Home</i>	4 / 33	Twins' different responses to their Daddy's arrival.
Prayer	<i>Never Pray This!</i>	4 / 41	Two types of prayer Christians should never pray.
* Overcomers	<i>The Neighborhood Tour</i>	4 / 49	Funny. Demons tippy-toe past the believer's house.
Hidden In Christ	<i>The Secret Room</i>	4 / 57	Those <i>In Christ</i> are storm-proof and satisfied.
God, Is That You?	<i>The Litmus Test</i>	5 / 17	Dip that "voice" into God's Word to test its source.
Deception	<i>Protection From Deception</i>	5 / 49	Deception changes your perception of God.
* Father's Love	<i>My Father Owns It All</i>	6 / 1	Two campers compare their fathers.
Restoration	<i>A Knack For A Shack</i>	6 / 32	God sees us through His eyes as a finished prize.
God Loves You	<i>God's Billboard Top Ten</i>	6 / 35	God sings over us, just as a lullaby or a lover's ode.
The Bible Is Inspired	<i>It's Alive!</i>	7 / 11	The "breath of God" makes your Bible come alive.
* Hungry for the Word	<i>Eat The Word</i>	7 / 46	An Ethiopian Emperor ate pages of his Bible and died.
Grace	<i>It's Who You Know</i>	7 / 62	Heaven is gained by Who you know, not works.
A Real Fool	<i>April Fools Day!</i>	7 / 63	A freshman proves his atheist professor is a true fool.
* Forgiveness	<i>Louis Zamperini Story</i>	8 / 40	WWII vet in Japanese war camp returns to forgive.
Emotions	<i>The Cracked Windshield</i>	8 / 49	The tiny ding left unfixed became a large crack.
Inner Man	<i>The Mall Of America</i>	9 / 1	Our spirit man is like a mall, everything we need.
Spirit Man	<i>The X-Rays Missed This</i>	9 / 9	X-rays show our natural man, but not our spirit man.
Confession of Faith	<i>How Faith Works</i>	9 / 13	A bicycle; confess with your mouth, believe in your heart.
Why Faith Fails	<i>A Wedding Disaster</i>	9 / 17	Mix your problem or promise with faith.
Salvation Benefits	<i>It's Paid For!</i>	9 / 41	Salvation is like an all-inclusive resort. Paid in full.
Faith Works!	<i>Faith Has No Plan B</i>	9 / 47	Our son's response to a marriage proposal setback.
God's Will	<i>A Fun and Faithful Father</i>	10 / 16	God's will unfolds with maturity.
Special Inheritance	<i>That's Billion With A "B"</i>	10 / 27	True story. Two brothers in poverty inherit billions.
* Rich in Christ	<i>The Wealthy Pauper</i>	10 / 32	A pauper didn't know she had inherited a fortune.
Describing God	<i>Artwork By Alyssa</i>	10 / 33	A kindergartener attempts to draw a picture of God.

* Rachel's favorites

FAITH PRINCIPLES

- I. What Is Faith**
- A. Mountain-moving faith
 - B. Six descriptions of faith
 - C. Faith is acting on the Word for supernatural living
 - D. *Heb. 11:1, Rom. 4:20*
- II. How Faith Works**
- A. God creates through the spoken Word
 - B. Faith frames your world
 - C. Believe with your heart and confess with your mouth
 - D. *Mk. 11:23, Rom. 10:8-9*
- III. Faith Pleases God**
- A. Faith reveals who God is
 - B. Faith reveals what God does
 - C. Rhema vs. logos
 - D. *Heb. 4:2, Heb. 11:6*
- IV. Faith Is Now**
- A. Two kinds of knowledge
 - B. Faith grows out of the Word
 - C. Faith vs. reason
 - D. *Heb. 1:1, Rom. 4:17*
- V. The Word-Ruled Mind**
- A. Meditate on the Word
 - B. Act on the Word
 - C. The Word works!
 - D. *I Cor. 3:3, Rom. 12:2*
- VI. Faith In A Person**
- A. The Author and Developer
 - B. Faith in His Name and Blood
 - C. Faith is not in a formula but in the Person of Jesus Christ
 - D. *Heb. 3:1, Heb. 12:2*
- VII. Abraham - Our Father Of Faith**
- A. Faith obeys the call
 - B. Faith births the impossible
 - C. Faith and patience will inherit the promises
 - D. *Rom. 4:20-21, Heb. 6:12*
- VIII. Expect A Miracle!**
- A. Faith extenders are reminders of God's faithfulness
 - B. Jesus fills His ordinary disciples with His extraordinary Spirit
 - C. Mix it with faith and release His power
 - D. *Heb. 10:23, Eph. 3:20*

