

2. Overcoming Faith (40 Day Campaign Series)

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Subtitle: The four Pillars of Faith

Today is Day 8 of our “Overcoming Faith” Campaign. We are on a 40 Day spiritual journey designed to strengthen & build our faith, to see God’s miraculous power released in and through our lives in a fresh way.

- Fresh Faith to lay hold of all of God’s promises
- Fresh Faith to overcome life’s challenges
- Fresh Faith to walk in:
 - God’s Peace and Joy
 - God’s Provision
 - God’s Protection
 - God’s Healing and Deliverance
- Fresh Faith for God’s will to manifest in our lives, families, city & nation

Last week’s main points of (some) fundamentals of faith:

1. Faith is always FOR something
2. Who has faith?
3. It is our responsibility to develop and grow our measure of faith
4. What is faith?
5. How do I get faith?

Today we will do a (w)holistic overview of faith, and list the four pillars, or four main components of faith.

Any solid building or structure requires strong pillars or load-bearing walls. So it is with our faith – strong faith requires four pillars to keep it stable and operational.

Hebrews 11:6 (NLT) *And it is impossible to please God without **faith**. Anyone who wants to come to him **must believe** that God exists and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him.*

Notice these 3 words: ... *faith* ... *must believe* ...

1. First Pillar - Faith must believe

Faith that doesn’t believe isn’t faith.

Many Christians hope that God's promises will come to pass in their lives, but our hopes will not "materialise" through hope alone.

It is our faith that gives substance to our hopes and dreams. (Heb. 11:1)

Romans 4:3 (NKJV) *For what does the Scripture say? "**Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.**"*

God pointed to the stars of heaven and said to Abraham: *So shall your descendants be ...* (Gen. 15:5-6). And Abraham believed what God had said.

Vs. 3... it (his believing) was accounted to him for righteousness.

Romans 4:9 (NKJV) ... *For we say that faith was accounted to Abraham for righteousness.*

Abraham heard God's Word and faith came into his heart - and he believed!

Genesis 15:6 says: ... *Abraham believed in God ...*

Romans 4:3 says: ... *Abraham believed God...*

Real Bible Faith does both:

- a. Faith believes in God (in His existence)
- b. Faith believes God (the Word that He has spoken)

2. Second Pillar – Faith must speak

Romans 10:10 (NIV) *For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and **it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.***

- Real Bible Faith engages our mouth to speak words of faith
- We are not saved until we profess our faith with our mouth by declaring Jesus Christ the Lord of our lives
- Believing alone is not enough
- We must speak our faith with our mouth and declare what we believe

2 Corinthians 4:13 (NKJV) *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.***

Paul quoted the psalmist from Psalms 116:10 who said that he believed and therefore spoke.

Then Paul said:

“We have the same spirit of faith – we also believe and therefore speak”.

Anyone who has real Bible faith will speak faith and declare what he believes.

- a. Faith always says what God says
- b. Faith always speaks the desired end result
- c. Anyone who doesn't have faith will speak only facts.

God called Abraham a father before Abraham had a child.

Romans 4:16–17 (NKJV) *Therefore it is of faith that it might be according to grace, so that the promise might be sure to all the seed, not only to those who are of the law, but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all* **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;***

- God called Abraham a father of many nations long before Isaac was conceived
- God calls those things that do not (yet) exist as though they did
- God speaks the desired end result
- He spoke to Abraham in the past tense (*I have made you*)

Anyone who has real Bible faith will do the same:

- a. Call those things that do not (yet) exist as though they did
- b. Speak the desired end result

3. Third Pillar – Faith must act

James 2:26 (NKJV) *For as the body without the spirit is dead, so **faith without works is dead also.***

... without works ... NIV. ... faith without deeds is dead

James 2:14 Weymouth NT *What good is it, my brethren, if a man professes to have faith, and yet **his actions do not correspond?***

Someone's faith can be dead faith if their actions do not correspond to the words they profess.

Real Bible faith will always produce a corresponding action along with our believing and our speaking.

James 1:22 (NLT) *But don't just listen to God's word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves.*

Our speech must be matched by our deed.
We must practice what we preach.

4. Fourth Pillar – Faith must be energised by love

Galatians 5:5–6 (NKJV) *For we through the Spirit eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness by faith. 6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, **but faith working through love.***

When we walk by faith, we give love a high priority in our lives, because:

... ***faith (is) working through love.***

Ampl. vs. 6 ... *faith activated and **energized** and expressed and working through love.*

Our mobile phones are energised by electricity.

Our love is like electricity to our faith.

The stronger our love is, the stronger our faith becomes.

Once we begin to walk by faith, engaging in quarrelling and in strife is no longer an option.

2 Timothy 2:24 (NKJV) *And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient.*

Colossians 3:12–14 (NKJV) *Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; 13 bearing with one another, and **forgiving one another**, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. 14 **But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection.***