

4. Faith - the Key to Victorious Living

www.victory.net.nz 25.09.2022

www.youtube.com/c/VictoryChristianCentre

Subtitle: Confession brings Possession

We are currently studying God's Word on the subject of faith & how we can build strong faith in our lives to live victorious in these challenging days.

- Our God-given faith is the substance & quality that helps us to stand strong and secure in Jesus Christ
- Faith is the master key that unlocks all of God's promises
- Faith is heaven's currency
- By faith we receive all that God has provided for us, and promised to us

1 John 5:4–5 (NIV) *For everyone born of God overcomes the world. **This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith.** 5 Who is it that overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.*

- Only believers in Jesus overcome the world & live victorious over it

To reiterate, “walking by faith” means 4 things:

- **Hear** what the Word of God says
- **Believe** in your heart what the Word of God says
- **Confessing** with your mouth what the Word of God says
- **Do** what the Word of God says

Today we will talk about our confession of faith.

1. The Confession or Declaration of Faith

Mark 11:12–14 (NKJV) *Now the next day, when they had come out from Bethany, He was hungry. 13 And seeing from afar a fig tree having leaves, He went to see if perhaps He would find something on it. When He came to it, He found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs. 14 In response Jesus said to it, “**Let no one eat fruit from you ever again.**” And His disciples heard it.*

- Jesus did a “show and tell” lesson by speaking to this fig tree, to show His disciples how faith works

- He spoke directly to the tree & made a declaration of faith against it
- His faith-filled words caused the tree to dry up from the roots within the space of about 24 hours

Mark 11:20–21 (NKJV) *Now in the morning, as they passed by, **they saw the fig tree dried up from the roots.** 21 And Peter, remembering, said to Him, “**Rabbi, look! The fig tree which You cursed has withered away.**”*

- Vs 14 records the “**Declaration of Faith**” (Jesus spoke & they heard)
- Verse 20-21 describes the “**Demonstration of Faith**” (they saw)
- Verse 22—23 gives the “**Explanation of Faith**” (they understood)

Mark 11:22-23 *So Jesus answered and said to them, “**Have faith in God.** 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.”*

Jesus explained:

- ... *Have faith in God* ...
- ... *whoever **says** to this mountain* ...
- ... *and does not doubt in his heart* ...
- ... *but believes that those things he **says** will be done* ...
- ... *he will have whatever he **says***

Vs 22 (D-R) *And Jesus answering, saith to them: **Have the faith of God.***

Jesus tells us to operate with the God-kind of faith. In other words:

- Don’t just have faith in God, but
- Have the faith of God
- Use faith and operate with it in the same way as God does!
- God spoke faith-filled words in the beginning when He created the world and everything in it (Genesis 1:3,6,14 ... *let there be* ...)
- We too created our own world by the words we speak

Verse 23 (NKJ) *For assuredly, I say to you, **whoever says** to this mountain*

- Whoever – this will work for anyone who decides to make it work for themselves

- By examining verse 23, we notice that word ‘believe’ is only mentioned once, but the word ‘speak’ is mentioned ‘three times’
- Many people who endeavour to walk by faith don’t lack in the “believing” department
- But they lack in the “speaking” department:
 - They either don’t speak faith-filled words
 - Or they speak words contrary to faith (facts)

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.***

- Faith isn’t silent
- Faith constantly speaks what it believes

Hebrews 13:5–6 (NKJV) ... *For He Himself has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”* **6 So we may boldly say:** *“The Lord is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?”*

- When we hear the Word of God and believe it in our heart, we boldly say what the Word of God says

Verse 23 ... *whoever says ... and does not doubt ... but believes ... those things he says ... he will have whatever he says.*

- Don Gossett wrote a book entitled: “What you say is what you get”
- This book is based entirely on Jesus’ explanation about how faith works
- Don G. wrote another book called: “Confession brings Possession”

When you see something in God’s Word that you want to possess, you have to confess it. Our Confession of Faith determines what we possess.

2. The Confession of Faith versus the Confession unto Faith

Kenneth Hagin taught about two different types of Confessions of God’s Word:

- a. The Confession **of** Faith
- b. The Confession **unto** Faith

- We mostly start out with the confession unto faith before we get to the confession of faith
- Our initial attempts in speaking God's word is to put faith into our hearts
- Our "Victory Programme" booklet is designed to put faith into your heart by speaking the promises of God

Romans 10:17 (NKJV) *So then **faith comes by hearing**, and hearing by the word of God.*

- When we consistently and boldly speak God's promises, our spirit hears it, and faith comes
- Once we have faith in our heart concerning any promise from God, our confession becomes a confession of faith
- Bold declarations of faith lead to demonstrations of faith
- Anyone not willing to practice the confession unto faith may never get to the confession of faith