

Learning to Believe

We have faith. Our faith and ability to believe (belief system) must be in a consistent state of developing

1. What you believe establishes possibilities for you - Mark 9:23
"Jesus said, if? There are no ifs' among believers. Anything can happen" Message
 - a. Your faith cannot work if you do not believe - Mark 11:24
 - b. Your results are determined by what you believe or do not believe - Matthew 13:58; Mark 6:1-6; Romans 4:19-21
MSG
 - c. I have faith - I must act on my faith, I will act on my faith
2. Believing is an act of one's will
 - a. The place of one's decisions which ultimately lead to one's actions - Luke 22:42
3. Your ability to believe is based upon pre-established criteria
 - a. Throughout your life you have been gathering information about possibilities
 - b. Thomas required information provided by the senses - John 20:24-25
 - c. To succeed you must elevate your belief system beyond the sense realm - Colossians 1:16
*** It's easy for us to grasps that God and heaven are invisible**
*** There are other invisible things**
4. Biblical believing is accepting something as fact without sense realm evidence - 2 Corinthians 4:18
5. The most significant evidence for the believer is God's Word
 - a. God impacts the natural world from the spiritual

- b. What you need is already in existence - Ephesians 1:3
 - c. It is in a spiritual raw state
 - d. When we believe it changes the raw spiritual state into a natural state - Mark 11:22
6. Biblical believing is seeing situations and circumstances from God's perspective
- a. You are not in denial when you speak the Word, you're in faith
 - b. Perspective (*your mental view*) is important to your faith
 - c. You must have the right perspective
7. To embrace God's Perspective, the mind must undergo Spiritual Conditioning
- a. Read the Word
 - b. Rehearse the Word
 - c. Reflect on the Word
 - e. Remember the Word
 - d. Regurgitate the Word
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Don't Stop Believing

There will be plenty opportunities to stop, but they afford an equal opportunity to keep believing

Habakkuk 2:4; 2 Corinthians 5:7

- 1. Faith is not magic
 - a. It is a spiritual process that produces God's will in your life
 - b. Faith can change circumstances and conditions - it is

limitless and unrestricted - **Mark 9:23** (*where there is faith, God's power is released*)

2. Faith is a Principle or Spiritual Law - **Romans 3:27**

- a. It works all the time - it is not seasonal
- b. It works independent of emotions, demographics (*race, gender, location, etc.*)
- c. It is as consistent as gravity or the laws of aerodynamics (*the study of the motion of air, especially when it interacts with a moving object*)

3. Faith must be Activated by the Word - **Romans 10:17**

If you are struggling in your faith perhaps you are not hearing enough

Your confidence in God and His Word is built over time and with consistency - *THE OPPOSITE IS EQUALLY TRUE!*

We learn this process from many areas - school, work, sports - PROGRESSION

- a. It is to the degree that you feed your spirit that you get the results ordained by God - **2 Peter 1:2-4**
- b. You cannot exercise faith for something that is contrary to the Word of God - **1 John 5:14 / The Message**
- c. He sent His Word - **Psalms 107:20**; He watches over His Word - **Jeremiah 1:12**

4. Fortifying your Choice to Believe - **1 Corinthians 16:13**
Message

Fortify - to strengthen or protect against attack

2 Thessalonians 2:15

- a. Your thought-life is significant to your ability to believe - **Ephesians 4:23; 2 Corinthians 10:5**
To believe you must renew your mind - **Isaiah 55:9**,
"Instead let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitude"

b. The Development of Our Thought-Life

From birth until the present each of us has adopted certain ideas and beliefs that govern and direct our decisions and way of living.

Social Environment, Credible Authority Figures, Repetitious information, Personal Experience

Many of these are not in line with God's best for us -

Isaiah 55:6-9

c. To believe as pleasing to God, the mind must be renewed

Ephesians 4:23 (*Instead let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes, NLT*), **2 Corinthians 10:5**

d. Your conversation or speech is closely related to your thought-life -

Faith is a matter of the heart

Your faith is released with the words you speak -

John 6:63