

## **Great Faith**

Matt 15:28 (NKJV) - Then Jesus answered and said to her, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be to you as you desire." And her daughter was healed from that very hour.

### **I. Where is Great faith found?**

Great faith is found in unlikely people!

1 Cor 1:26-27 (NKJV) - For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called. But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise...

### **II. Where is great faith placed?**

Great faith is always placed in Jesus!

Psalms 20:7 (NIV) - Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God.

Rom 12:3 - "...God has given to every man the measure of faith".

That measure of faith is activated when Jesus and His Word are encountered!

Isaiah 40:8 (NIV) - The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God stands forever."

### **III. How is great faith demonstrated?**

Great faith is demonstrated through persistence!

Matt 15:22-27 (NKJV)

22 And behold, a woman of Canaan came from that region and cried out to Him, saying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David! My daughter is severely demon-possessed."

23 But He answered her not a word. And His disciples came and urged Him, saying, "Send her away, for she cries out after us."

24 But He answered and said, "I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."

25 Then she came and worshiped Him, saying, "Lord, help me!"

26 But He answered and said, "It is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the little dogs."

27 And she said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters' table."

Persistence is a sign of two qualities:

1. Awareness of need
2. Awareness of available supply

John 4:10(NKJV) ...if you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you...

Luke 18:1-8 (NKJV)

1 Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart,

2 saying: "There was in a certain city a judge who did not fear God nor regard man.

3 Now there was a widow in that city; and she came to him, saying, 'Get justice for me from my adversary.'

4 And he would not for a while; but afterward he said within himself, 'Though I do not fear God nor regard man,

5 yet because this widow troubles me I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.' "

6 Then the Lord said, "Hear what the unjust judge said.

7 And shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them?

8 I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?"

#### **IV. How is great faith identified?**

Great faith is identified by worship!

John 4:23 (NKJV) - But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him.

#### **V. How is great faith characterized?**

Great faith is characterized by humility!

Where no humility exists, no true faith can exist!

Vs. 26 - "It is not good to give the children's bread..."

"Good" = fair, deserved

Eph 2:8-9 (KJV) - For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.

## **VI. How is great faith revealed?**

Great faith is revealed by our view of the problem as opposed to our view of God!

Psalm 34:3 - Oh, magnify the Lord with me, And let us exalt His name together.

Psalm 69:30 - I will praise the name of God with a song, And will magnify Him with thanksgiving.

Isaiah 14:16 - Those who see you stare at you, they ponder your fate: "Is this the man who shook the earth and made kingdoms tremble..."

Heb. 12:1-2a - Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, <sup>2</sup> fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.

For this woman, the spread that was on the master's table made her request look like a crumb that had fallen...

1 Cor. 2:9-10 (NKJV) - But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him." 10 But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit...

Lamentations 3:22-24

22 Because of the LORD's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail.

23 They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.