

We Walk By Faith, Not By Sight!

2 Cor. 5:6-10 (ESV)

6 So we are always of good courage. We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord,

7 for we walk by faith, not by sight.

8 Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord.

9 So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him.

10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

The Christian life, is a faith life!

Those who live the faith life have absolute confidence in God's Word!

Hebrews 11:1 (ESV) – Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Hebrews 11:6 (ESV) - And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

We must believe God's Word, even when it seems ridiculous!

Isaiah 55:10-11 (ESV)

10 "For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

11 so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

When God says it... you can count on it!

1 Cor. 10:1-6 (ESV)

1 For I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea,
 2 and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea,
 3 and all ate the same spiritual food,
 4 and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ.
 5 Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness.
 6 Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did.

2 Tim 3:16-17 (ESV)

16 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,
 17 that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

Right before every great move of God and right after a great move of God - attack comes!

Numbers 13:1-2 (ESV)

1 The Lord spoke to Moses, saying,
 2 "Send men to spy out the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the people of Israel. From each tribe of their fathers you shall send a man, everyone a chief among them."

Numbers 13:3 – (ESV) So Moses sent them from the wilderness of Paran, according to the command of the Lord, all of them men who were heads of the people of Israel.

Vs. 4 -16 (gives the names and tribes of the 12 spies)

Numbers 13:17-27 (ESV)

17 Moses sent them to spy out the land of Canaan and said to them, "Go up into the Negeb and go up into the hill country,
 18 and see what the land is, and whether the people who dwell in it are strong or weak, whether they are few or many,
 19 and whether the land that they dwell in is good or bad, and whether the cities that they dwell in are camps or strongholds,
 20 and whether the land is rich or poor, and whether there are trees in it or not. Be of good courage and bring some of the fruit of the land." Now the time was the season of the first ripe grapes.

21 So they went up and spied out the land from the wilderness of Zin to Rehob, near Lebo-hamath.

22 They went up into the Negeb and came to Hebron. Ahiman, Sheshai, and Talmi, the descendants of Anak, were there. (Hebron was built seven years before Zoan in Egypt.)

23 And they came to the Valley of Eshcol and cut down from there a branch with a single cluster of grapes, and they carried it on a pole between two of them; they also brought some pomegranates and figs.

24 That place was called the Valley of Eshcol, because of the cluster that the people of Israel cut down from there.

25 At the end of forty days they returned from spying out the land.

26 And they came to Moses and Aaron and to all the congregation of the people of Israel in the wilderness of Paran, at Kadesh. They brought back word to them and to all the congregation, and showed them the fruit of the land.

27 And they told him, "We came to the land to which you sent us. It flows with milk and honey, and this is its fruit.

1 Cor. 2:12 (ESV) - Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God.

1.) Rehearse what God has said instead of what the opposition says!

When you pay closer attention to the natural word of man instead of the supernatural Word of God, you have no faith to fight with!

Numbers 13:30-33 (ESV)

30 But Caleb quieted the people before Moses and said, "Let us go up at once and occupy it, for we are well able to overcome it."

31 Then the men who had gone up with him said, "We are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we are."

32 So they brought to the people of Israel a bad report of the land that they had spied out, saying, "The land, through which we have gone to spy it out, is a land that devours its inhabitants, and all the people that we saw in it are of great height.

33 And there we saw the Nephilim (the sons of Anak, who come from the Nephilim), and we seemed to ourselves like grasshoppers, and so we seemed to them."

2.) Rebuke any thoughts of lack when you see the size of the opposition!

When you compare what you THINK you DON'T HAVE to what you THINK the opposition DOES HAVE, you invite unbelief and Intimidation will paralyze your progress!

Numbers 14:1 (ESV) - Then all the congregation raised a loud cry and the people wept that night.

They left the limitless realm of the SUPERNATURAL and returned to the limited realm of the NATURAL!

Numbers 14:2-5 (ESV)

2 And all the people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron. The whole congregation said to them, "Would that we had died in the land of Egypt! Or would that we had died in this wilderness!

3 Why is the Lord bringing us into this land, to fall by the sword? Our wives and our little ones will become a prey. Would it not be better for us to go back to Egypt?"

4 And they said to one another, "Let us choose a leader and go back to Egypt."

5 Then Moses and Aaron fell on their faces before all the assembly of the congregation of the people of Israel.

3.) Refuse to let fear to take control of your situation!

When you allow fear to take control of your situation, your desire for relief will cripple your courage!

Numbers 14:6-9 (ESV)

6 And Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, who were among those who had spied out the land, tore their clothes

7 and said to all the congregation of the people of Israel, "The land, which we passed through to spy it out, is an exceedingly good land.

8 If the Lord delights in us, he will bring us into this land and give it to us, a land that flows with milk and honey.

9 Only do not rebel against the Lord. And do not fear the people of the land, for they are bread for us. Their protection is removed from them, and the Lord is with us; do not fear them."

Numbers 14:10-11 (ESV)

10 Then all the congregation said to stone them with stones. But the glory of the Lord appeared at the tent of meeting to all the people of Israel.

11 And the Lord said to Moses, "How long will this people despise me? And how long will they not believe in me, in spite of all the signs that I have done among them?"

4.) Resist the desire for instant relief!

When you allow fear and intimidation to cause you to disobey...

You will also allow your desire for instant relief to keep you from enduring the construction (building up) of your character!

Heb. 3:7-13 (ESV)

7 Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says, "Today, if you hear his voice,

8 DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS as in the rebellion, on the day of testing in the wilderness,

9 where your fathers put me to the test and saw my works for forty years.

10 Therefore I was provoked with that generation, and said, 'They always go astray in their heart; they have not known my ways.'

11 As I swore in my wrath, 'They shall not enter my rest.'"

This life is a faith life!

If we walk by faith, then we cannot live by sight!