



Sarah: lifts the shield 011.How Faith Works

Challenge from the podcast:

Consider how God may be wanting you to partner with Him in FAITH, even when you don't FEEL like it.

James, the half brother of Jesus, has this to say about faith:

What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can his faith save him?

If a brother or sister is without clothes and lacks daily food and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, keep warm, and eat well," but you don't give them what the body needs, what good is it? In the same way faith, if it doesn't have works, is dead by itself. James 2:14-17

In the podcast, I mentioned Abraham and Sarah demonstrating their faith three ways: WORK, WALK and WAIT. Which of the three does this support and how?

While I'm not saying that all WORK related to our faith needs to be in acts of service for others, it certainly does drive the point home that if we are not willing to make an effort, then maybe we haven't fully committed to the partnership.

What is the area of FAITH in which God is calling you to WORK? _____

There was a king of the Old Testament, who though fearful and faced with a enemy armies approaching, decided to hold firm in his FAITH. Look at this example of how the FAITH of King Jehoshaphat WALKed...

After consulting the people, the king appointed singers to walk ahead of the army, singing to the Lord and praising Him for His holy splendor. This is what they sang: "Give thanks to the Lord... His faithful love endures forever!" At the very moment they began to sing and give praise, the Lord caused the armies of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir to start fighting among themselves. 2 Chron 20:20-22 NLT

And the king and his people stood firm and saw the victory of the Lord without having to fight in the battle.

How is God asking you to WALK out your FAITH? Does it involve WORDS which speak the heart of your hope? _____

Is there something you are WAITing in? These seem to be the most common, and often the most uncertain times of FAITH. But try to keep in mind, that often times, we are not the only ones WAITing.

So the Lord must wait for you to come to Him so He can show you His love and compassion. For the Lord is a faithful God. Blessed are those who wait for His help. Isaiah 31:18 NLT

Consider writing out a prayer to the Lord, letting go of all control in this time of WAIT. He has blessings for you!



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011.How Faith Works

KNOW that God is
watching over you and
has a **PURPOSED** plan
timed just right
for your deliverance!



WALKing out or FAITH does not mean we need to be pushy as witnesses for God. Abraham did not try to **convince** his servants that he and Isaac would return, he only told them. God will convince and convict. We only need to WALK out our FAITH.

SHIELD of FAITH:

I will hold up my shield to extinguish the flaming arrows which seek to distract, protecting myself, and linking up with other warriors, joining forces to defend and defeat those who threaten the Kingdom.



FAITH is a SHIELD:

Necessary for protection from both distant aim and close combat with an enemy force. This, to be sure is a choice. Not easily tucked in a pocket, out of the way. Nor helpful if left in the closet at home. Only those who hold it out front receive the true protection it gives.

So WHY do we DOUBT?

If our FAITH is meant to protect us, why do we struggle so often to hold onto it? Could it be that we don't realize the protective value of FAITH?

This must be a scheme of our enemy... this doubt and fear that we can lose our faith, or somehow have to feel it to believe it exists. This clearly is some sort of trickery to cause us to lose our grip on the shield, the piece of armor God gave us to keep close by for protection.

It is true that without this FAITH, it is impossible to please God. But how awesome that He gives us the very thing that He also requires of us. Let us not be deceived. Let us KNOW that God is for us, protected by the shield and secure in our helmet of salvation which protects our thoughts.

But without faith it is impossible to [walk with God and] please Him, for whoever comes [near] to God must [necessarily] believe that God exists and that He rewards those who earnestly and diligently seek Him.

Hebrews 11:6 AMP

HELMET of SALVATION: This salvation is not limited to my destiny after death, but is essential to protect my daily thought life, knowing who I am, Who I belong to, and where I am going. This gives me significance and purpose and keeps me captive to higher thinking.



Rely on the STRENGTH of God

Our FAITH is represented by a shield in the Armor of God... and shields are heavy pieces of armor. So why struggle to lift them on our own, when we have such a mighty God who promises to be on our side? Call on Him for help.

They did not conquer the land with their swords; it was not their own strong arm that gave them victory. It was Your right hand and strong arm and the blinding light from Your face that helped them, for You loved them. You are my King and my God. You command victories for Israel. Psalm 44:3-4