

2-4-26

Have Faith in Any Situation

Opening Prayer:

**Heavenly Father,
We come before You in the name of
Jesus Christ. We thank You for Your
living Word that speaks to us in every
season of life. Lord, You know the
burdens we carry, the fears we hide, and
the situations we do not understand.
Today, we ask that Your Holy Spirit open
our hearts and minds. Strengthen our
faith. Teach us to trust You...not just
when life is easy, but especially when
life is hard. May Your Word take root and
bear fruit in our lives. We give You all
the glory and honor. In Jesus' mighty
name, Amen.**

Introduction: Faith Is Not the Absence of Trouble

Faith is often misunderstood. Many people think faith means life will go smoothly....no hardship, no pain, no uncertainty. But the Bible teaches something **very different**.

Faith is not the absence of storms.
Faith is trusting God **in the middle of the storm**.

Jesus Himself said:

John 16:33 (NIV) ³³ "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

Notice what Jesus did *not* say.
He did not say *if* trouble comes...He said *when* it comes.

The real question is not “*Will I face difficulty?*”

The real question is “*Where will my faith be when I do?*”

What Is Biblical Faith?

Hebrews 11:1 (NIV) Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.

Faith is not wishful thinking.

Faith is not denial of reality.

Faith is trusting God **even when you cannot see the outcome.**

Faith says:

- “God is good even when life is painful.”
- “God is faithful even when answers are delayed.”
- “God is in control even when things feel out of control.”

Faith in Impossible Situations - Abraham

One of the clearest biblical examples of faith in difficult circumstances is Abraham.

Romans 4:18 (NIV) ¹⁸ Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, “So shall your offspring be.”

Abraham and Sarah were far beyond child-bearing years. Every natural circumstance said, “*This is impossible.*” But God had made a promise.

Romans 4:20–21 (NIV) ²⁰ Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, ²¹ being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised.

Abraham didn't ignore reality.
He trusted God **above reality**.

Faith is believing God's promises even when circumstances argue against them.

Real-World Illustration: Faith When the Diagnosis Comes

Imagine a believer who goes to the doctor expecting routine results....only to hear the word *cancer*. Suddenly life changes.

Fear tries to take over. Questions flood the mind:

- “Why me?”
- “What if the treatment doesn't work?”
- “What about my family?”

Faith does not pretend the diagnosis isn't real.

Faith says, “*God is still with me.*”

Psalm 46:1 (NIV) ¹ God is our refuge and strength,
an ever-present help in trouble.

Faith doesn't always remove the trial....but it **anchors the soul** during it.

Faith in the Storm - The Disciples

Mark 4:37–38 (NIV) ³⁷ A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped. ³⁸ Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, “Teacher, don’t you care if we drown?”

The disciples were experienced fishermen. If *they* were afraid, this storm was serious.

Here's the powerful truth:
Jesus was in the boat the entire time.

They cried out, **"Teacher, don't you care if we drown?"**

How often do we pray that way?

Yet Jesus stood and said:

Mark 4:39–40 (NIV) ³⁹ He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Quiet! Be still!" Then the wind died down and it was completely calm.

⁴⁰ He said to his disciples, "Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?"

The presence of a storm does not mean the absence of God.

Faith When You Don't Understand - Job

Job lost:

- . His wealth
- . His health
- . His children

Yet Job declared:

Job 13:15 (NIV) ¹⁵ Though he slay me, yet will I hope in him; I will surely defend my ways to his face.

Job didn't have answers.
Job didn't understand *why*.
But Job trusted *Who*.

Faith says, "*God, I don't understand....but I trust You.*"

Faith Produces Endurance

James 1:2–3 (NIV) ² Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, ³ because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.

Faith grows strongest when it is tested.

Just like muscles grow through resistance, **faith grows through difficulty.**

Faith in Everyday Life

Faith isn't only for big crises.....it's for daily living:

- Trusting God with finances
- Trusting God in marriage
- Trusting God while raising children
- Trusting God when prayers seem unanswered

Proverbs 3:5–6 (NIV) ⁵ Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;
⁶ in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

The Ultimate Example of Faith - Jesus Christ

Jesus faced the cross with full knowledge of the suffering ahead.

Luke 22:42 (NIV) ⁴² “Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done.”

Faith is surrender.

Jesus trusted the Father completely...even unto death.

And because of that faith and obedience:

**1 Corinthians 15:57 (NIV) ⁵⁷ But thanks
be to God! He gives us the victory
through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

Faith Is Not About Outcome....It's About Obedience

Sometimes God calms the storm.
Sometimes God calms His child **in** the
storm.

Faith is trusting God no matter the
outcome...because we know **He is good.**

Closing Encouragement:

Whatever situation you are facing today

God sees you.

God knows you.

God has not abandoned you.

Hebrews 13:5 (NIV) ⁵ Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said,

“Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.”

Invitation to Salvation in Christ

Before we close, I want to speak to anyone who does not know Jesus Christ personally.

Faith is not just believing *about* God...it is trusting **in** Him for salvation.

The Bible says:

Romans 3:23 (NIV) ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

Romans 6:23 (NIV) ²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Jesus lived the perfect life we could not live, died the death we deserved, and rose again so we could be forgiven.

Romans 10:9 (NIV) ⁹ If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

Prayer of Salvation:

If you desire to give your life to Christ, pray this from your heart:

**Lord Jesus,
I know that I am a sinner.
I believe You died on the cross for my
sins and rose again.
I turn from my sin and place my faith in
You alone.
Forgive me. Save me. Make me new.
I confess You as Lord of my life.
In Jesus' name, Amen.**

Closing Prayer

**Father God,
We thank You for Your Word and for the
faith You give us through Jesus Christ.
Strengthen us in every situation. Teach
us to trust You when life is uncertain.
Help us walk by faith and not by sight.
May our lives bring You glory. We ask all
of this in the powerful name of Jesus.
Amen.**