

Pastor Ron Case
3/13/11

“Valiant Faith”

“I tell you, he will give justice to them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?” (Luke 18:8)

Progressive Faith

Romans 1:17 – “For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, ‘The righteous shall live by faith.’”

Romans 4:18-22 – (18) “In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, ‘So shall your offspring be.’ (19) He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. (20) No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, (21) fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. (22) That is why his faith was ‘counted to him as righteousness.’”

Key Point: Valiant Faith Must be Nurtured

How do I Nurture Valiant Faith?

(1) Get a Steady Diet of God’s Word

Job 23:10-12 – (10) “But he knows the way that I take; when he has tried me, I shall come out as gold. (11) My foot has held fast to his steps; I have kept his way and have not turned aside. (12) I have not departed from the commandment of his lips; I have treasured the words of his mouth more than my portion of food.”

(2) Do the Hard & Hidden Kingdom Business

Mark 4:26-29 – (26) “And he said, ‘The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground. (27) He sleeps and rises night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows; he knows not how. (28) The earth produces by itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. (29) But when the grain is ripe, at once he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come.”

(3) ‘Go Long’ on Trials

1 Peter 1:6-7 – (6) “In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, (7) so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.”

(4) Keep the Hope

Hebrews 9:27-28 – (27) “And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment, (28) so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.”

Questions:

What impacted me the most in this message?

Am I cooperating with God for the development of my faith?

(James 1:3-4)

Does my faith tend to be outcome-based or God-centered? (Prov. 3:5-6)

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)