## **FAITH (Session 3)**

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Greetings in the wonderful name of Jesus. It is an honor for me to minister the gospel of God's grace to you. The most powerful force in existence known by man is the love and grace of God. The grace of God is the power of God that brings a brand new life to every person free from his own will power to try and obey spiritual principles but simply by believing in Jesus Christ we can share in the quality of God's life.

Today we are talking about faith. This is the third session that we will talk about faith. I don't know how many more will come. We can talk about faith for a very long time. I would just like to give a short recap on what I shared in the previous two sessions.

Faith is the result or the place a person finds himself in, when he is convinced by the integrity of another person, to rest in that person so that person can bring forth whatever He has promised. Let me say that again: Faith is the condition the human being finds himself in after he has been persuaded by the integrity of another person that that person can bring forth whatever he has promised. Now that is very simple. If we look in the Greek it just points out to four or five simple points and that is a person who has faith is one who where God has actually won your friendship. Faith is not your undivided attention where you are trying to persuade yourself that God will do something for you. Neither is faith a hard concentration like I am just trying to believe that something will happen. No, faith is a place where you actually come to rest! Faith is a place where you are experiencing absolute peace, absolute joy, absolute rest because you know that you are fully qualified and that God has brought enough evidence to you that He, by His own doing, can bring forth whatsoever He has promised.

The way we have looked at the gospel was from a foundation where if we can just have enough good works and enough holiness then we can have all the things we desire have in this world, like a house, a car, health. Most of the time most people desire a nice house, enough money, health and a long life and a family life that is healthy. That is what most people desire and what has happened is it has been said that Jesus will provide all those things for us and that is what He has come to do. Jesus Christ died so that we can have those things. Then, if we just believe hard enough then He will give us those things that we desire. We'll have a nice house. We will have a nice car. We will have enough money and we will have health. Then, as a bonus on top of that, we will not then burn in hell but we will go to heaven. That was what was basically believed on what the gospel is.

I want to say to you that the gospel is much more than that! The gospel is something that the Apostle Paul, without having a house, without having a wife, without having money, being lied about, being beaten up, sitting in jail, calls himself to be extremely excited and happy, writing a letter that they smuggled out of the jail that is still changing people's lives today! That is what the gospel can bring you! You may say, "Now, Bertie, that sounds like bad news! That sounds like I am not going to have the house, the car nor the beautiful, attractive wife or husband, obedient children and all those kind of things. What then is the gospel about?"

The gospel of Jesus Christ is a place where we can rely upon God where He has proven by what He has done in Jesus, to actually set you free from a life where you are not partaking in His quality of life. Where God has come in Jesus to conquer your sin for you, where God has come in Jesus to end your death, to bring eternal life to you where He will bring His righteousness into this earth, where He will come and manifest His kingdom, by His doing, in the earth.

I remember when there was a time when I thought that God wants to manifest His kingdom in this earth so I need to get busy with manifesting His kingdom and portraying His kingdom in the earth. That got me very busy with quoting scriptures, trying to believe, trying to get other people to do the very same thing, frustrating myself and not walking in the peace of God. When we look at Jesus Christ, we find that God, single handedly, without our contribution, conquered the power of sin and death.

I want to ask you this question: How much did you contribute to Jesus conquering the sin of the world? When He became sin and died away your sin of the world and when He was raised up immortal, in that resurrection conquering all sin and even physical death? How much of our faith was needed to get that right? None! It was something that He single handedly got right and He brought forth a truth about every human being, in His death and resurrection, that is glorious and powerful.

When we look at Adam and what he has done, Adam came and disobeyed God and through that disobedience, sin entered the world. Through that sin death passed on to all people. When we look at Adam, we know that whatever Adam has done includes us. His disobedience included us. What did you have to personally do in order for Adam to bring forth sin and death in your life? Nothing! What did we have to do, personally, to get death to spread over the whole earth? Nothing! It was through the disobedience of one man that sin entered and passed on to everybody because everybody has the wages of sin which is death.

We easily believe and we can easily know that through that which Adam has done is passed on to all man. Now, the thing is this, that if Adam could be his disobedience bring that forth, how much more through the obedience of Jesus could He conquer what Adam has done? How many more times, through His resurrection as He brought eternal life and holiness and righteousness to man as a free gift? You see, what we do in our walk of faith is we see that Jesus has died for our sins. We see that Jesus was resurrected and then we see there's something potential. We see it as, the day I believe that is when Jesus actually dies for me and when I believe that is when I am actually resurrected with Christ. No! That is not how it works. As what Adam brought a truth about humanity, through his disobedience, in the very same way Jesus Christ brought the truth about humanity in His death and resurrection. That truth believed, when we are persuaded of that truth, then we find that our heart starts to experience the freedom by the power of that truth in our lives in the here and now.

So many times people think, maybe you are listening to me now and you may think that I am saying that everybody is saved. I am not saying that everybody will inherit eternal life. I am preaching so that people can believe this truth and that this truth can then manifest by the Holy Spirit, the brand new life in you. When you are not born from legalism or born from obligation or the belief system where you feel obligated to obey scriptures and obey certain things and live a holy life in order for God to accept you and save you, one day, from hell. But what we want to do and what the writers of the gospel and what the Apostle Paul was teaching was you want the people to come to the realization that sin has been conquered, that death has been conquered, It has not just been conquered in one man but it has been conquered in one man on behalf of everybody. Since Jesus is the High Priest of God that represents God and man in front of each other.

So, we see heaven manifested in earth in the body of Jesus and we see that body of Jesus was sinless. When He became sin He included all of us inside that body. When Jesus died He became sin so we cannot but conclude that the Jesus that was hanging upon the cross, the curse that He became, the sin that He became, is my life. So that after the resurrection we can only conclude that the resurrection life of Christ is my life. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile. There is no difference between, law abiding and not law abiding but where everybody became sinners and where the resurrection life now is by the doing of God belonging to every person.

When we look at Jesus and how He has conquered our sin and conquered our death, and we see the power of God in how we can actually bring something like that forth that includes all of us. The effect that comes to your heart when you understand that is the emotion of, "My God is bigger than my mistakes! My God is stronger than my sin. My God is stronger than my death!"

Then when God comes and pours out the Holy Spirit on the earth, that same Spirit that raised Christ from the dead is then giving us the promise that as He raised Christ from the dead, without sin, without death, that Spirit will also raise us up into a life where we walk free from sin, where we walk free from death, where we can actually love the way God loves. Where we don't have to live, in what I call the shallowness of just blatant will power, application to scriptures, but where we can have compassion and love the way God has compassion and love.

The gospel of Jesus is the good news of how God has come and conquered that which you cannot conquer by your own willpower. It is the Good News of how God has come and made you a co-owner of His love, a co-owner of His kindness, where you are drawn into the inner circle where you can experience how good and how kind He is!

The highest quality of life is not found in the abundance of your possessions. The platform that I am preaching on is all over the world, even on this specific TV station that I am preaching now, this message will go to different stations so I want to say this again. The traditional teaching of the prosperity gospel where we define our blessedness by how much money we have and how we "conquer" poverty by what we possess, brought some form of joy although it brought a lot of heartache as well, but that can never be compared to a life that is flooded with contentment. A life that is flooded with contentment is a life that says, "I have my mind at rest in the integrity of God! My mind is resting in Him that He is the one that brings forth peace and joy and kindness in my life that supersedes what the world brings. In this world, if you give somebody a million rand you will be very glad and that would be the joy that money can bring but that which God can bring supersedes that!

I just feel inspired by the Holy Spirit to say that maybe you applied your faith for so many years in wanting to have a breakthrough. If you are just honest with yourself, you have never had that breakthrough! You believed for and you have been faithful in everything you think you need to do. You have been going to church, confessing scriptures, you've been worshiping, you've been meditating trying to renew your mind for as long as what you know but you are always struggling and you are always going through a difficult time and you don't know why. You see your one friend getting a breakthrough and the other one getting a breakthrough or you will listen to the radio or read a magazine or watch on television and always hear of someone who testifies of the supernatural miracles by the principles. Then you believe in these principles and you see nothing! Well, that is the problem! The problem is you are believing in faith instead of believing in Jesus!

I've seen that in my own life. When I started to stop trusting in principles, when I stopped believing in what I do and how I obeyed and I simply believed that He is my Father and that I can have my life defined, not in the abundance of my possessions, not where my kid goes to school, not in how much money I have or who my friends are or what car I drive or what shoes I wear or what shirt I preach with. If we get to ministry, to you pastors who watch this, the quality of my television broadcast, the quality of the video cameras, the beauty of the studio, the amount of people that follow me or how many likes I have on facebook or the size of my crowds, the moment I came and I realized that my life is defined in the resurrected Jesus and it became a reality to my life, in that day contentment was born in my heart, because I knew that joy is found in loving someone, in just how He loves through me. Joy is found in knowing that I am innocent and guiltless and holy before Him and I have always been! Joy is found in seeing a resurrected Jesus and who He is at the right hand of the Father as the promise of what God would bring forth in my life! Isn't that absolutely awesome! That is absolute good, good news!

When we look at faith, I am going to look at Matthew 15 and Luke 7 which are two examples of great faith in the bible: I am going to explain to you the great faith that these people had. **Both examples talk about people who were not Jews. They were Gentiles and great faith was found in them.** 

## Matthew 15:

25 25 Then came she and worshipped him, saying, Lord, help me.

26 But he answered and said, It is not meet (not right) to take the children's bread, and to cast it to dogs.

27 And she said, Truth, Lord: yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters' table.

28 Then Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, great is your faith: be it unto you as you will. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour.

When we look at that passage, we find the Syrophoenician woman, the Greek woman, come to Jesus and say to Jesus, "Jesus, my daughter is sick and would You come and heal her?" He said, "Listen, I've only come for the lost sheep of the house of Israel." What He was saying to her is, "According to the Law, you don't qualify. You are not of the right tribe, you don't even have the law, you are not keeping any of the rules, you are not circumcised, you are not obedient as the Jews are and I have come to actually bring salvation to the Jews." That's a long explanation of what that actually means which we are not going to get into. But, that is what He said to her.

Imagine you come and Jesus said to you, "You don't qualify! By the law, you don't qualify for a healing." Like financial prosperity you need something and you feel you don't qualify because you didn't give the way you were supposed to give, you didn't do any of these things so how will I ever qualify?" Disqualification can set in your heart because you know that you haven't done all the right things. Now, this woman's faith was greater than that. She said, "Even the dogs, even those who don't qualify, can still receive!" What she was actually believing was that the integrity and the love of Jesus was greater than her ability to keep the law! That Jesus' love for humanity qualifies people for healing and is the way to healing and not the work of the law! So, what she was saying was, "Who Jesus is, is greater than my qualification or disqualification!" Jesus said, "Great is your faith!"

Faith means to be in a state where Jesus has won your friendship. So what He is saying is, "Great is your revelation of how I am your friend because, (and I put this in my own words) you see My friendship with you and with humanity is greater than their ability to keep the law!" He was saying that **His ability to love was greater than the disqualification that comes through the disobedience of man.** 

So, I want to say to you that you are qualified! You are qualified not by your obedience but you are qualified by His love for you! What qualifies you for a life of peace? What qualifies you for love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, meekness, temperance, faithfulness? What qualifies you for that? The love of God qualifies you for that! God loving you!

So many times we have made the promises of the gospel, stuff, instead of love. What we have done is we have taken what was actually the promises which were the fruit of the Spirit, and we think that by providing the fruit of the Spirit we will have access to the true promises which were all found in stuff and breakthroughs and, like I said earlier in this service, a nice house, a beautiful wife, a nice car, good friends and always being protected in times of danger and a healthy life. That is what we thought. We thought the promises were this healthy life and all those things and if we can provide the fruit of the Spirit then we can have access to that. No, it is completely wrong that way! The promise is the fruit of the Spirit and eternal life. That's what God has promised. God has promised us immortality, eternal life. Eternal life is the quality of God's life expressed in Jesus which was a sacrificial life. It was a life of love and kindness and not a life of extravagance but a life of kindness and goodness and that's what I want. That's what God has promised us. He has come to promise us His life and inside that life we find an explosion of peace and joy because that's what He promised. We can see how the friendship of God is greater than our disqualification by the law.

Luke 7:19 talks about the Greek Centurion who was a ruler of a hundred people. He said, "Come and heal my servant." Jesus said, "I will come." He said, "I am not worthy that you should come under my roof." In other words, "I am a Gentile and You are not allowed to come under my roof but just speak the word and it shall be done!" So many times we think it was all about a "distance healing." We had great faith. It was a two mile healing or it was a five mile healing. No, it had nothing to do with that. What it is actually saying, if you want to call it a distance healing, is that the love of God crossed over the distance of his disqualification since he was a Gentile and Jesus said, "Such great faith have I not even found in Israel!" Do you know why He couldn't find such great faith among the Jews? It was because they believed that God blesses them because they are Jews. He doesn't bless them because He is good. They felt that their keeping their set of rules is how they have access into preserving their lives. In the meantime the set of rules were all pointing to Jesus and what He had to come and establish in the earth. Amen!

I just want to just use the last minute and a half to just pray for you and tell you about our website.

Father, I want to thank You so much that I can just pray for people right now. They may feel disqualified but thank You that You have come to bring great faith to them which is the persuasion that Your friendship with them supersedes their disqualification where they could not keep the principles and rules and laws in order for You to bless them. Thank You, Lord! Amen

I would like to hear from you. If this service has touched you or you have any questions, please just go to our website, Dynamicministries.com where you can get a hold of all our materials for free. You can also get my book, *Jesus is the Tithe* where I explain how tithing is fulfilled in Christ as well as my book, *Born from Innocence*. These books are available for free in eformat. In paperback there is a price for it but in e-format it is free.

I want to thank you so much for watching this message and just allowing us to hear from you. We would like to hear from you and minister to you and pray for you as well. Thank you so much and God bless you.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pYbMVezxPZc