

THE LAWS OF BIBLICAL PROSPERITY

(Chapter Ten)

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Chapter Ten – How to Walk by Faith

As you have read from the previous three lessons, the Bible says that without faith it is impossible to please God and that He rewards those who seek Him (Hebrews 11:6). It also says that whatever is not of faith is sin (Romans 14:23), that Believers must live by faith (Romans 1:17 and Habakkuk 2:4) and that we should walk by faith and not by sight (2 Corinthians 5:7). Thus, the overall conclusion for the Believer must be that God doesn't do anything outside of faith which means that His principles of conduct, including the laws of biblical prosperity, always work through faith. Thus as previously concluded, biblical prosperity is for Believers who live by faith and God rewards those who seek Him in faith.

In Chapter Seven we submitted the following *law* of biblical prosperity: *In order to experience the manifestation of biblical prosperity, you must walk in faith.* Then in Chapter Eight we discussed what we need to do to develop a strong faith so that we can come to achieve our ultimate potential. In Chapter Nine we showed that strong faith is actually a force that can change lives. Friend, do you realize that you have residing within you, i.e. in your spirit, a measure of faith that was given by God as a free gift (Romans 12:3 and Ephesians 2:8) that has the potential to produce greater works than Jesus manifested in His earthly ministry (John 14:12)? In today's lesson we conclude the topic of faith by discussing how Believers actually LIVE by faith to achieve the potential God has for each person.

How to Walk By Faith

In general, a faith person is someone who lives and walks by faith and not by sight. In other words a faith person is someone who lives by the promises of the Word and not by the five physical senses. A faith person is someone who rejects the values and principles of the World in order to follow the Word of God even when it seems to his or her disadvantage. A faith person has developed their faith into an active force that rises far above passive belief. How then do faith people live their lives so that in that process they will open the door to biblical prosperity?

There are several characteristics of life that are common among Believers who are living by active faith. The outward manifestations we can see are that they are joyful and peaceful, seemingly in victory all the time, continuously manifesting the blessing and favor of God. But behind those outward attributes are a number of spiritual activities going on we don't necessarily see that work to produce their strong faith and biblical prosperity. Following are the key examples of these spiritual activities.

1. Faith people study the Word of God.

No matter how much our flesh wants it to be otherwise, a faith person is compelled to study the Word and grow in knowledge. This is the basic requirement. Faith comes by hearing the Word of God (Romans 10:17). Faith people often rise early in the morning at personal sacrifice sowing their time into the study of the Word in order to develop their faith and receive the related benefits. They spend hours going over scriptures and waiting for God to help them understand through the revelation of the Holy Spirit. Even Believers who are mature in strong faith continue to study the Word and continue to receive new revelation.

2. Faith people know and understand the promises of God.

The Bible is full of the promises that God has made to His people. The Laws of Prosperity are just one example. But to cause those promises to bear fruit in our lives we have to first find out what they are so we can do something with them. That knowledge comes from

diligent study of the Word because that's the only place you can find them. Too many Christians are falling short on seeing the promises of God manifested in their lives because they don't know those promises and the few they may be familiar with they don't know how to activate.

3. Faith people live their lives in agreement with the Word.

To live in agreement with the Word means to line up one's life with anything and everything that can be found there. In other words, a faith person must also be a Word person. The faith person meditates on the Word constantly because he/she knows it will produce success in life (Joshua 1:8). If the Word says we should do some particular thing or not do something, the faith person is trying to be obedient. The faith person knows that to walk in disagreement with the Word, which is to live by the flesh, is to open the door to the consequences of the curse that Jesus already overcame so we wouldn't have to.

4. Faith people ask specifically for what they want.

Faith people know that a Believer has to be specific with God. They know that the Bible says that *we do not have because we do not ask* (James 4:2) and they know that we can have whatever we ask for in faith (Mark 11:24). But they are careful to put the Kingdom of God first in their asking so they don't ask for things from wrong motives (James 4:3). Faith people ask specifically and then stand on the Word in faith believing that their prayers will be answered in due course.

5. Faith people believe they can have what they say.

Faith people speak out what they have asked for as though they already have it. They do this because the Word of God tells them to (Mark 11:23-24). They believe they have received the answer in the Spirit even though what they have asked for hasn't manifested yet in the natural. Remember what is real for the faith person is what cannot be seen (2 Corinthians 4:18).

6. Faith people are trying to fulfill the love commandments.

A person of faith realizes that to receive what they ask for they must walk in love (John 15:7-10). Please see Chapters Five and Six of this Bible Study based on Matthew 22:36-40 to fully understand this concept. A person of faith knows they can't walk in the flesh neglecting God and treating other people badly and expect to have their requests answered.

7. Faith people pray in the Spirit.

People of faith pray privately but frequently in the Spirit (in tongues) because they know that the Word of God says we build up our faith that way (Jude 20). The stronger our faith is the closer we can come to being able to perform the works that Jesus did.

8. Faith people wait for the Word to manifest in their lives.

Being a faith person involves a lot of waiting. But that's what faith is all about. If everything came immediately, little faith would be involved and we wouldn't have to trust God. Faith people are willing to wait and they don't give up (Luke 18:1) believing that God will deliver on what they have requested. Abraham waited 25 years for the promises of God to manifest in his life but eventually they did just as they will for any Believer who will stand waiting in faith.

9. Faith people confess what they are believing God for.

While they wait, a faith person only confesses verbally what the Word says instead of what is sensed in the natural. They walk by faith and not by sight (2 Corinthians 5:7). For example, since the Bible says we were healed by the wounds of Christ (1 Peter 2:24), you won't hear faith people confess (say) they are sick. They may have some symptoms but they won't agree with actually "having" the sickness and they believe their prayers of faith will cause the symptoms to depart from them even if by medical attention so they can regain outward agreement with the Word. They confess they are debt free (Romans 13:8) even though they have credit card bills to pay. They are not denying reality because for the faith person true reality only exists in what they cannot see (2 Corinthians 4:18).

10. Faith people are content while they wait and trust in the Word.

While they wait for the promises of God to manifest, faith people don't complain to God or to others about the lack of manifestation in their lives. The Bible tells us to be content with whatever our circumstances are (Philippians 4:11) and to be content with what we already have (Hebrews 13:5). Instead of complaining about what they don't have, faith people are confessing that they already possess what they are believing God for. They have taken ownership over God's promises even though they can't see them yet in the natural.

Conclusions

Many Christians don't pursue living by faith and some of them give as the reason that a faith walk is the denial of reality. We've shown though that true reality is connected to what is not seen. Others say they want a more balanced walk with the Lord. Perhaps they mean they want to balance faith with the opposites of doubt, unbelief and fear. Such a "balance" is of course unscriptural. The truth is many Believers are stuck at the beginning with little more than the measure of faith they were given to be born again with. But God is pleased when Believers LIVE by a faith that is growing and becoming stronger.

If you are struggling with your faith, our prayer is that you will lift up to God the various ideas you have read about in this Bible Study and then let Him show you His will for your life. We believe by our faith that He will show you that with strong faith you can be assured that God will send biblical prosperity into your life in the abundance that Jesus promised (John 10:10).

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BIBLE STUDY

Lesson Ten – How to Walk by Faith

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2. A faith person is someone who _____ the values and principles of the World in order to _____ the Word of God.
3. A faith person has developed their faith into an active _____ that rises far above passive belief.
4. A faith person is compelled to study the Word of God and _____ in knowledge because faith comes by _____ the Word of God.
5. A faith person knows and understands the promises of God because he/she has diligently _____ the Word of God.
6. A faith person tries to line up his/her life with anything and everything that can be found in the _____.
7. A faith person is specific with petitions to God and knows that he/she can have whatever he/she asks for.
8. A faith person believes his/her prayer has been answered in the _____ before the manifestation appears in the _____.
9. A faith person realizes that to receive what has been asked for requires that he/she walk in _____.
10. A faith person confesses with his/her _____ what agrees with the _____ instead of what is sensed in the natural.
11. A faith person is contented while he/she waits for the _____ in the natural of what he/she is believing God for.
12. For a faith person true reality is connected with what is _____.

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4. A faith person is compelled to study the Word of God and grow in knowledge because faith comes by hearing the Word of God.
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9. A faith person realizes that to receive what has been asked for requires that he/she walk in love.
10. A faith person confesses with his/her mouth what agrees with the Word instead of what is sensed in the natural.
11. A faith person is contented while he/she waits for the manifestation of what they are believing God for.
12. For a faith person true reality is connected with what is not seen.