

The Power of Faith: A Motivational Story That Will Change Your Life

By System Import | Sermon | March 13, 2026

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There is a story told about a tightrope walker who stretched a wire across a massive waterfall. A crowd gathered, watching in terror and fascination as he walked across the roaring waters with ease. He pushed a wheelbarrow across. He walked backward. He even juggled while walking. The crowd cheered. They believed he could do anything.

Then, he asked the crowd a question: "Do you believe I can carry a person across in this wheelbarrow?"

The crowd shouted, "Yes! We believe!"

The tightrope walker pointed to a man in the front row and said, "Okay. Get in."

The man froze. He refused. The crowd went silent.

Why? Because there is a massive difference between **mental assent** (believing something is true) and **biblical faith** (betting your life on it). The man in the crowd had an opinion; he did not have faith.

We love the stories of faith—David slaying Goliath, Moses parting the sea, Daniel in the lions' den. But we often treat these stories like fairy tales. We forget that these were real men and women facing real death, real fear, and impossible odds. They didn't have "superpowers"; they had Faith. And the Bible says that faith is the currency of Heaven. It is the only thing that moves the hand of God. Without faith, it is impossible to please Him (Hebrews 11:6).

Today, we are going to move from being the crowd on the shore to being the person in the wheelbarrow. We are going to deconstruct what faith actually is, how it works, and how you can get the kind of faith that changes your reality. We are going to look at the "Physics of Faith," the "Language of the Invisible," and the "Courage to Step Out."

Number 1: The Physics of Faith — Substance Over Shadow

Hebrews 11:1 gives us the definition: "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

The Greek word for "substance" is **hypostasis**. It literally means "a standing under." It refers to a title deed or a legal document.

Think about buying a house. You sign a contract. You have a piece of paper (the deed). You haven't moved in yet. You can't see the furniture inside. But that piece of paper is the **substance**. It is legal proof that the house is yours.

Faith is not "wishing" hard. Faith is possessing the title deed in the spirit before you see the manifestation in the natural.

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When you pray for healing, faith says, "I have the deed." The symptoms might still be there (the shadow), but the healing is the reality (the substance).

Most people live by their senses: "I'll believe it when I see it."

Faith reverses the physics: "I believe it, *therefore* I will see it."

To operate in power, you must realize that the invisible realm is more real than the visible realm.

The visible world was created *by* the invisible Word (Hebrews 11:3). Therefore, faith is tapping into the superior reality.

Number 2: The Vision of Faith — Seeing the Invisible Army

In 2 Kings 6, the prophet Elisha is surrounded by the Syrian army. His servant wakes up, sees the horses and chariots surrounding the city, and panics. "Alas, my master! What shall we do?"

Elisha is calm. Why? Is he blind? No. He has "Faith Vision."

Elisha prays a strange prayer: "Lord, I pray, open his eyes that he may see."

The Lord opens the servant's eyes, and he looks again. The physical army is still there, but now he sees the hills are full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

The servant panicked because he only saw the problem. Elisha had peace because he saw the Provision.

Faith is the ability to see the "Chariots of Fire" when everyone else only sees the enemy.

This is not ignoring reality; it is seeing the *greater* reality.

When you look at your bank account, do you see "Zero," or do you see "Jehovah Jireh"?

When you look at your wayward child, do you see a "rebel," or do you see a "mighty man of valor"?

Faith is a visual art. You must visualize the promise of God so clearly that the problems of earth start to look blurry.

Number 3: The Language of Faith — Calling Things That Are Not

Romans 4:17 describes God as the one who "gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did."

This is the creative power of faith.

God didn't look at the darkness and say, "Wow, it's really dark in here." He said, "Let there be light." He spoke the solution, not the problem.

We often use our words to describe our situation: "I'm so sick," "I'm so broke," "I'm so tired."

Faith uses words to *change* the situation.

This is not "manifesting" in a New Age sense; this is aligning your vocabulary with Heaven's dictionary.

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If God calls you "Healed," but you call yourself "Sick," you are disagreeing with God. The centurion in Matthew 8 understood this. He told Jesus, "Just speak the word only, and my servant will be healed." He knew that words carry authority. Stop reporting on your mountain and start speaking *to* your mountain (Mark 11:23). "Mountain, move." "Cancer, go." "Debt, dissolve." Your voice is the trigger that fires the weapon of faith.

Number 4: The Courage of Faith — Wet Feet

You cannot talk about faith without talking about Peter walking on water (Matthew 14). Twelve disciples were in the boat. Only one walked on water. Why? Because only one got out of the boat. The boat represents comfort. It represents safety. It represents "what is possible." The water represents the impossible. It represents the place where, if God doesn't show up, you die.

Faith is not an intellectual concept; it is a movement. You can memorize every verse on faith, but until you step out of the boat, you are just a theologian, not a water-walker.

- * Faith is applying for the job you aren't qualified for.
- * Faith is giving the tithe when the math doesn't add up.
- * Faith is forgiving the person who doesn't deserve it.

Every miracle in the Bible was preceded by an act of inconvenient obedience. "Stretch out your hand." "Go wash in the pool." "March around the walls." God is waiting for you to get your feet wet. He will not part the Jordan River while you are standing on the bank. He parts it when your feet touch the water (Joshua 3:15).

Number 5: The Persistence of Faith — The Refusal to Take "No"

There is a disturbing story in Matthew 15 where a Canaanite woman asks Jesus to heal her daughter.

At first, Jesus ignores her. (Silence).

Then, the disciples try to send her away. (Rejection).

Then, Jesus says, "It is not right to take the children's bread and toss it to the dogs." (Insult).

Most of us would have quit. We would have said, "Well, I guess it's not God's will."

But this woman had "Bulldog Faith." She replied, "Yes it is, Lord. But even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master's table."

Jesus stopped in His tracks. He said, "Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted."

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This teaches us that faith is resilient. It does not take offense. It does not quit at the first sign of resistance.

Sometimes God allows obstacles to test the quality of your faith. Are you just trying God out, or are you desperate?

Great faith climbs over the wall of silence. It pushes through the crowd. It grabs the hem of the garment. It says, "I am not leaving until I get my blessing." (Genesis 32:26).

Number 6: The Rest of Faith — Sleeping in the Storm

We often think faith is striving—screaming, sweating, and straining.

But the highest form of faith is actually Rest.

In Mark 4, the disciples are panicking in the storm. Jesus is asleep on a cushion.

Why was He sleeping? Because He knew the Word of the Father: "Let us go over to the other side."

If God said "we are going to the other side," then the boat cannot sink in the middle.

Worry is the indicator that your faith is leaking.

Rest is the indicator that your faith is full.

Hebrews 4:3 says, "For we who have believed do enter that rest."

When you have truly deposited your problem into God's hands, you stop pacing the floor. You sleep. You know the Banker is watching the vault.

If you are still anxious, you are still carrying it. Faith is the deep exhale of the soul that says, "God has this. I can go to sleep."

Number 7: The Reward of Faith — The Hall of Fame

Hebrews 11 is known as the "Hall of Faith." It lists the heroes—Abraham, Sarah, Noah, Rahab.

What did they all have in common?

They bet their lives on the character of God. And they were rewarded.

Verse 6 says God is "a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him."

Faith is an investment that always pays dividends. It might not pay out on *your* timeline, but it pays out.

Noah built an ark for 120 years with no rain. He looked foolish. But when the rain came, his faith saved his family.

Abraham waited 25 years for a son. But when Isaac came, he became the father of nations.

Your faith is not in vain. Every prayer, every tear, every act of obedience is being stored up.

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God is keeping the score. He is looking for people who will trust Him in the dark.

The reward of faith is not just the miracle; the reward is the *relationship*. You get to know God as the Provider, the Healer, the Way-Maker. You get to see His glory.

Conclusion

The tightrope walker is calling.

The wheelbarrow is waiting.

The water is deep, and the storm is loud.

But the Master of the Wind is standing on the water, holding out His hand.

He is saying, "Come."

Don't spend your life safe in the boat. The boat is boring. The boat is where fear lives.

Get out of the boat.

Activate your faith. Speak to the mountain. Stand on the Word.

This is the power that changes your life. It turns the ordinary into the extraordinary.

It turns a shepherd boy into a King. It turns a fisherman into an Apostle.

And it can turn your situation around today.

"For with God nothing will be impossible." (Luke 1:37)