GET IN THE WHEELBARROW

Charles Blondin was a world-renowned tightrope artist and acrobat.  On June 30, 1859, before a stunned crowd of thousands, Blondin was the first person to cross Niagara Falls by tightrope.  He crossed 1,100 feet on a single three-inch cord, strung from 160 feet above the falls on one side to a spot 270 feet above the falls on the other.  The breathless assembly watched him accomplish, step by slow step, a feat most believed impossible.

But Blondin was just getting started.  In the years that followed, the daring entertainer crossed again and again: on stilts, in a sack, even pushing a wheelbarrow!  The story goes that an exuberant onlooker called out, "I think you could cross with a man in that wheelbarrow!"  Blondin agreed and invited the man to climb in.  Very nervously, the man declined, before sheepishly fading into the background.

Does that ever describe your walk with the Lord? Where you know God's promises are true, yet you're sometimes reluctant to "get in the wheelbarrow"?  The truth is, there's a huge difference between merely believing *in* God, and truly *believing* God.

Jesus once asked a crowd of followers, *"Why do you call me 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say?"* (**Luke 6:46**).  What Jesus was pressing for was more than just a mere *profession* of faith.  Jesus was looking for people who trusted Him enough to actually *live* their faith.

So whether you call it "Christian Atheism," or "hypocrisy," or just "shallow faith," all of us understand there's a serious disconnect whenever our walk doesn't match our talk.  Which is why this week, we'll consider some areas in our Christianity that might need a tune-up, so that not only are we believers in *word*, but also in *deed*.  Let's encourage each other these next few days to "get in the wheelbarrow."

-*JM*