

1 And I, brethren, when I came to you, did not come with excellence of speech or of wisdom declaring to you the testimony of God. 2 For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified. 3 I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling. 4 And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, 5 that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

1 Cor. 2:1-5

WHAT FAITH CAN ACCOMPLISH



WHAT CAN FAITH
ACCOMPLISH?

FAITH WILL CAUSE
YOU TO BELIEVE THE
“UNBELIEVABLE.”

Jesus performed miracles to prove He was who He claimed.

- ¹¹ This beginning of signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory; and His disciples believed in Him . . . ²³ Now when He was in Jerusalem at the Passover, during the feast, many believed in His name when they saw the signs which He did (John 2:11, 23).

These miracles serve the same purpose for those unable to witness them in-person.

- ²⁹ Jesus said to him, “Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.” ³⁰ And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹ but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name (John 20:29-31).
- ²⁴ This is the disciple who testifies of these things, and wrote these things; and we know that his testimony is true. ²⁵ And there are also many other things that Jesus did, which if they were written one by one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that would be written. Amen (John 21:24-25).

WHAT CAN FAITH ACCOMPLISH?

FAITH CAN LEAD TO ANSWERED PRAYERS

Prayer with faith – strong faith – will lead to answered prayers, when according to God’s will.

- ⁵ If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. ⁶ But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. ⁷ For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; ⁸ he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways (James 1:5-8).
- ¹³ Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing psalms. ¹⁴ Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵ And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. ¹⁶ Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much. ¹⁷ Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months. ¹⁸ And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth produced its fruit (James 5:13-18).

WHAT CAN FAITH
ACCOMPLISH?

FAITH MAKES YOU
REALIZE ALL OF THIS
ISN'T FOR NOTHING.

The devil is a master at tricking us into getting caught up in this life and forgetting our hope is not in this life.

- ¹⁶ For if the dead do not rise, then Christ is not risen. ¹⁷ And if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins! ¹⁸ Then also those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. ¹⁹ If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable (1 Cor. 15:16-18).

Those with faith realize God is always tracking everything we endure and always keeping score.

- ¹² For this reason I also suffer these things; nevertheless I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day (2 Tim. 1:12).

It's easy to give in to Satan and grow discouraged by the cares and troubles this world offers, but what an encouragement to know that God is always keeping track of everything we endure, every good work we practice, every prayer, every act of kindness, etc.

WHAT CAN FAITH
ACCOMPLISH?

FAITH WILL HELP YOU
THROUGH YOUR
TOUGHEST BATTLES.

⁷ But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. ⁸ We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; ⁹ persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed— ¹⁰ always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. ¹¹ For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. ¹² So then death is working in us, but life in you. ¹³ And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I believed and therefore I spoke," we also believe and therefore speak, ¹⁴ knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present us with you. ¹⁵ For all things are for your sakes, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God. ¹⁶ Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷ For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, ¹⁸ while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal (2 Cor. 4:7-18).

**WHAT CAN FAITH
ACCOMPLISH?**

**FAITH WILL HELP YOU
THROUGH YOUR
TOUGHEST BATTLES.**

Faith will get you out of bed in the mornings when the devil is in your head trying to convince you that there isn't any point in getting up.

Faith will cause you to put your two feet on the ground and keep pushing forward when the devil is giving you every reason not to.

Faith can make you strong even when you are at your very weakest.

- ⁹ And He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. ¹⁰ Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ’s sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong (2 Cor. 12:9-10).

WHAT CAN FAITH ACCOMPLISH?

FAITH WILL CAUSE YOU TO SEE THE BEST IN PEOPLE.

- Love thinks no evil (1 Cor. 13:5).
- Paul exemplified this attitude with Philemon and Onesimus (Philemon 10-22).
 - Paul did not see Onesimus as a runaway slave, but rather “a beloved brother” (v.16). People of faith would view such a one as a beloved brother, but people without faith or a with a weak faith would view him very differently.
 - Paul was confident that Philemon would accept Onesimus back voluntarily and without Paul forcing him to do so (v.14). Paul was confident in Philemon’s obedience (v.21). Paul was so confident in Philemon that he knew he would wind up doing even more than Paul asked.
- Faith and the proper heart will lead us to having the type of love for people that is willing to bear all things, believe all things, hope all things, and endure all things (1 Cor. 13:7).

WHAT CAN FAITH
ACCOMPLISH?

FAITH WILL CAUSE
YOU TO BE MORE
FORGIVING.

Faith will cause you to be more willing to forgive others when they wrong you.

- ¹⁴ For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵ But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses (Matt. 6:14-15).
- The world proudly touts mantras such as:
 - “I’ll forgive you but I won’t forget what you did.”
 - “If someone does me wrong, that’s it for them. We’re done.”
 - “Just because you’re sorry doesn’t mean I have to accept your apology.”
- People of faith have a completely different attitude.
 - ³¹ Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. ³² And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you (Eph. 4:31-32).

When we realize we can do for others what God through Christ does for us, it becomes so much easier to be forgiving.

WHAT CAN FAITH
ACCOMPLISH?

FAITH MAKES YOU
WANT TO SHARE
THAT FAITH.

Knowing what we have together in our common faith should constantly drive us to want to spread the gospel.

- ¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek (Rom. 1:16).

At the same time, we should not only want to share our faith with the world, but also share IN our faith with our brethren.

- ¹¹ For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift, so that you may be established—¹² that is, that I may be encouraged together with you by the mutual faith both of you and me (Rom. 1:11-12).

Our faith should drive us to want to be around like-minded people and invite others to partake in the exceedingly great and precious promises of Christ so we all can be further encouraged by that mutual faith.

WHAT CAN FAITH
ACCOMPLISH?

FAITH MAKES YOU
WANT TO SHARE
THAT FAITH.

The quickest way to lose faith is by stopping studying.

- ¹⁷ So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God (Rom. 10:17).

But if you are studying frequently, your faith will grow, thus, your desire to be obedient should also grow. Faith motivates us to obey the Lord.

- ¹ Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, ² by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you—unless you believed in vain . . . ⁵⁸ Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord (1 Cor. 15:1-2, 58).
- ¹² Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father (John 14:12).
- ³⁶ Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him (John 3:36, ESV).

WHAT CAN FAITH
ACCOMPLISH?

FAITH CAN CAUSE
YOU TO EMBRACE
DEATH.

Faith causes us to look at death differently than most people.

- ¹⁵ Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of His saints (Psalm 116:15).
- ²¹ For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain. ²² But if I live on in the flesh, this will mean fruit from my labor; yet what I shall choose I cannot tell. ²³ For I am hard-pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better (Phil. 1:21-23).
- ⁶ For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand. ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸ Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing (2 Tim. 4:6-8).

We don't need to be looking to die (we've got work on this side of eternity that we must do), but when death is near, we can face it with grace and confidence as we look forward to being carried by angels into Abraham's Bosom (Luke 16:22).

WHAT CAN FAITH ACCOMPLISH?

FAITH WILL SAVE YOU.

¹⁶ But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him (Heb. 11:6).

²⁴ Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins (John 8:24).

⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith (Eph. 2:8).

- James said in James 2:18, **show me your faith.**
- What does your faith look like?
 - Will your faith save you? Or is it just a dead faith?
 - Would you be willing to die in your faith this very hour?

IS YOUR FAITH SAVING YOU?