

Harvest Warriors Newsletter

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Volume 8 Issue 3
August, 2009

Warring To Harvest

Faith For Every Day Living

Written by Daniel Yoder

I want to talk about the importance of applying the faith that God has given to us to our every day circumstances. Faith is the essence of the Christian walk and unless we learn how to apply it in our everyday lives we will not grow in it as God desires.

“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.”
Hebrews 11:6

“For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, ‘The just shall live by faith.’”
Romans 1:17

Our day to day lives are to consist of a walk in faith. In order to grow

from faith to faith, our faith must be exercised on a regular basis. We need to look at the many things we are involved in each day, and the problems we come up against, as opportunities to exercise our faith. *What is the first thing you think about when you face a problem? Is it “Woe is me,” or is it an immediate struggle to try to figure out how to handle the problem? Our first thought when faced with a problem should be, “How can I use this situation as an opportunity to exercise faith?”* If you don't know, then ask the Lord to show you. You might be surprised how quickly things will change if you will face problems in this way.

What kind of *faith picture* do you have for your life? By this, I mean, what are your dreams and goals, what is your vision for tomorrow, what are you going to work toward? Your family? Your marriage? Your job/career? Your business? Do you have godly goals in your life? Do you have a vision for what God wants you to do with your life? If so, then you can begin to apply faith. God's will is for you to prosper in all of these areas.

"Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers." 3 John 1:2

A Definition of Faith

"Now faith is the assurance [the confirmation, the title-deed] of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." Hebrews 11:1

Using this definition of faith we should be able to come up with a whole new vision and purpose for our lives and what we can actually accomplish through faith. You do not have to settle for your life as it is. God wants you, through faith, to come into the fullness of what He has for you. Faith involves assurance and conviction. When your faith is solid, it stands

under every situation and supports it with assurance. It is being convinced, beyond a shadow of a doubt, that God will take charge of the situation.

Faith always relates to something yet future. The phrase "*hoped for*" points to the future. We must see tomorrow in light of God's abilities and power, not our own. Faith will prepare us for the adventure instead of fear, because of our assurance that God can handle any problem that comes up.

Faith has as its object "*things not seen.*" Faith is fixing our attention on what we cannot see, that is, on God and His power and ability. When we do this, we think beyond the realms of natural expectation based on our own power and abilities.

The walk of faith and the exercising of our faith are found in being spiritually minded rather than carnally minded. Being carnally minded means that we are thinking in terms of human power and ability in the physical realm. The natural thing to do in many situations is to approach it through a carnal approach, but that

approach does not lead to peace. It only adds to the stress of the situation because all too many times we are completely unable in our own power and ability to solve a problem. *Have you ever noticed that God delights to bring his people into problems that are impossible for them to deal with? He does this to grow our faith as we learn to rely on Him to take care of our problems.*

“For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.” Romans 8:5-6

Before we were saved our minds were trained to respond according to our own natural reasoning and desires. That is, our carnal or fleshly minds. But now that we have been born again and made new, God wants us to learn how to live and function in this life according to faith and being spiritually minded. This means we no longer lean upon our own understanding.

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge

Him, and He shall direct your paths. Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and depart from evil.” Proverbs 3:5-7

As Christians, we are now a people of faith, which means God wants us to move in realms of faith rather than unbelief. Our belief system has to be firmly established in what we believe God wants for our lives. We must see our lives as He sees them.

Do you ever wonder why we so quickly receive those things that are negative and meaningless in our lives? It is because doubt and unbelief have been firmly entrenched in our lives and when we give place to it, it comes almost immediately and automatically in any situation. What would happen if belief and faith were as strongly entrenched in our lives as doubt and unbelief used to be? Watch out!

How do you remain a person of faith when everything around you speaks of unbelief and doubt? We live in a negative world of uncertainties. This doubt, unbelief and lack of certainty is exhibited and projected in the people that we often find ourselves in association

with. Are we influencing them or are they influencing us? Big question! We are to be the salt and the light in our society to influence their lives in a positive and meaningful way.

Faith Exercises to Live
By

In order for our faith to grow it must be exercised on a daily basis. Our growth in faith is very similar to the natural growth and the natural deterioration of our bodies as we age. When we were young our bodies just grew. As we begin to age we must exercise and eat right in order to preserve the strength of our bodies. As young Christians we grow very easily in faith, but as time goes by it becomes more of a struggle. We now have to exercise our faith more strategically by doing our faith exercises.

1. Get A Faith Picture Of What God Has In Store For You.

“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”
Hebrews 1:11

Sit down and think about your life. Begin to get a faith picture of what you see God doing in your

life, whether it's your marriage, the disciplining of your children, relationships, finances, or whatever. Pray and find out what goals God wants you to set for your life. Set short term goals and long term goals. Without having goals you will never accomplish anything.

2. Begin to Confess to One Another the Things You See God Doing.

“But since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, ‘I believe and therefore I spoke,’ we also believe and therefore speak . . .” 2 Corinthians 4:13

“But what does it say? ‘The word is near you, even in your mouth and in your heart’ (that is, the word of faith which we preach) . . .”
Romans 10:8

What do you desire to see God doing in your lives on a daily basis? You must confess these things to one another and to God. Make your faith declarations. Then when God moves, be sure to recognize it and thank Him and tell others about it. Write it down so you won't forget God's moves in your life.

3. Faith Comes By Finding The Biblical Solutions.

“So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.” Romans 10:17

“This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.” Joshua 1:8

Learn to go to the Bible and study it for the help that you need. It has all of the answers contained in it that you need to deal with your problems. The Bible is about people like you and I, who went through the same kind of conflicts that we must go through. It is the word of God that establishes our belief and faith. We must stand on the word. If we don't know the Bible we won't be able to do this.

4. Your Faith Picture Must Be Put Into Action.

“What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him? . . . Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. But someone will say, ‘You have faith, and I have works.’ Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. . . But do you want to know, O foolish man, that

faith without works is dead? Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar? . . . Do you see that faith was working together with his works, and by works faith was made perfect? James 2:14-26

A Christian man worked each day transporting tourists across a lake. On occasion he would present the gospel and its implication for life in a most unusual way. He had painted the word “Faith” on one of the oars of his rowboat and “Works” on the other. When they got quite far from the shore, he would stop, then, begin to row with only the one oar marked “faith.” This would cause the boat to go in circles. Reversing the process, he would pull on the other oar marked “works,” and they would circle in the opposite direction. By this time the bewildered passengers were waiting for an explanation. This afforded him a wonderful opportunity to give them the truth concerning discipleship and the Christian life. He always concluded by saying, “You see, neither faith nor works can stand alone. They are twins that cannot be separated. I must use both oars if we want to get anywhere.”

Do you want serious change in your every day life? You have to apply the principles of being a good husband or wife as well as the faith. You have to apply the principles of training your children right as well as believing and confessing for it. Do you want to see your financial situation turned around? You have to begin applying the principles of financial integrity and giving as well as believing, confessing and hoping. It all works together.

5. Expect Change To Occur.

After you have firmly established a faith picture of what you desire in your life, begin to expect a real change to occur. It takes a heart of anticipation and expectation for faith to be fully released.

“Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.” Mark 11:24

Do you want to see your marriage change? Begin expecting it to. Do you want to see your ability to discipline your children change and become more consistent? Begin expecting it to. Do you

want to see your financial situation change? Begin expecting it to. As you pray and ask God for these things believing that He will answer you, AND work to accomplish them, the changes will come.

Concluding Remarks

Life should be lived like this: Yesterday is a cancelled check; we cannot negotiate it again. Tomorrow is a promissory note; it can't be utilized until tomorrow arrives. Today is cash in hand; it must be invested. The psalmist expressed it this way: “This is the day which the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.” Look at this way: Faith is like a muscle – it must be exercised. Faith is like a sunrise – it is fresh every morning.

New From Harvest Warriors

We are beginning to write a series of smaller books. The first one is now ready. It is titled *The Verdict, Victory Over The End-Time Attacks*. It describes a powerful new lesson in spiritual warfare that the Lord taught to Rebecca recently. Please see the enclosed sheet for details and ordering information.

Copies

You are welcome to make copies of this newsletter and send them on to others. If you know of someone who would like to receive our newsletter, please send us their name and address.

Prayer Basket

Our prayer basket continues to be full of prayer requests. We receive many testimonies from people whose prayers have been answered. We thank God for His unfailing faithfulness to His people! Send your prayer request to us, and we will be glad to join with you in prayer as we put your request into our prayer basket. We do not read the requests we receive. God reads them.

Love Offerings

We know we are living in difficult economic times. Recently the Lord spoke to us telling us to be careful to continue our giving. He said, "If My people will continue to give for My work, I will remember their needs and take care of their finances. I am fully able to bless them even in the midst of

the most difficult times. Far too often My people fall into increasing financial difficulties because as the recession affects their finances the first thing they do is cut back on their giving."

Harvest Warriors is a faith supported ministry. Your gifts enable us to accomplish the many facets of the work God has given us to do. We deeply appreciate each and every gift, and pray over each one, asking the Lord to meet your needs and bless you in return.

Please use the enclosed envelope to send your gift to us.

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