

# Living in Victory

## Session #4: Faith – What do you do after you have prayed.

Faith is the confidence that what we hope for will actually happen; it gives us assurance about things we cannot see. Hebrews 11:1

NOW FAITH is the assurance (the confirmation, the title deed) of the things [we] hope for, being the proof of things [we] do not see *and* the conviction of their reality [faith perceiving as real fact what is not revealed to the senses].

For this reason I am telling you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe (trust and be confident) that it is granted to you, and you will [get it]. Mark 11:24

- When you believe you receive your answer before you see it manifested, you are appropriating God's Word by faith.
- Faith is not moved by symptoms or circumstances.
  - Too many Christians don't believe they are healed when they pray because they don't see or feel an immediate change in their symptoms.
  - You cannot be moved by what you see, feel, or hear. You can only be moved by the Word of God.
- The fulfillment of your prayer has already occurred in the spirit when you prayed. Your unwavering faith (and your words) will bring it from the spirit realm into the natural realm.

Son, I want you to understand something: There is no power on earth greater than My power—no power!

Your daughter doesn't have the power and the faith to get out of the trouble she is in. It will have to be done by your faith in Me.

I can set her completely free through your faith, but your faith concerning her has been wavering a little. You have started wondering about when I am going to do it. That is none of your business. I don't need your help. All I need is your faith. I have to have your faith before My power is even available to move on your child.

Every time—not just part of the time, but every time—your faith wavers, it cuts off My power from dealing with her. You're her father, and your unwavering faith will bring My power out of heaven and upon her life to set her free.

But your faith wavers from time to time concerning her complete freedom. Sometimes you even wonder if I am going to do it. When you waver, My power stops. Norvel Hayes, Stand Steadfast in Faith

- Faith opens the door for God to move in your life

### **Hagin's Step #3: Be positive in your thinking**

- Let every thought affirm that you have what you asked for.
- Resist Doubt. Doubt will nullify your faith. It will pollute your heart. Remember Peter sinking after already walking on water when he looked at the storm instead of looking at Jesus.
- Belief works in both directions – Faith or Fear. Faith opens the door to God. Fear opens the door to Satan.

# Living in Victory

For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. Mark 11:23,

If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. 6But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. 7For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; 8he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways. James 1:5-7

- In order to receive answers to your prayers, you must eradicate every image, suggestion, vision, dream, impression, feeling, and all thoughts that do not contribute to your faith and do not affirm that you have what you have asked God for.

[For Abraham, human reason for] hope being gone, hoped in faith that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been promised, So [numberless] shall your descendants be. [Gen. 15:5.]

19 He did not weaken in faith when he considered the [utter] impotence of his own body, which was as good as dead because he was about a hundred years old, or [when he considered] the barrenness of Sarah's [deadened] womb. [Gen. 17:17; 18:11.]

20 No unbelief *or* distrust made him waver (doubtfully question) concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong *and* was empowered by faith as he gave praise *and* glory to God,

21 Fully satisfied *and* assured that God was able *and* mighty to keep His word *and* to do what He had promised. Romans 4:18-21 AMP

- Faith is not wishing, it is expectation. Hagin's Hope vs. Faith.
- Example: faith for salvation, Creflo Dollar healing

## Hagin's Step #4: Guard your mind

- Guard against every evil thought that comes into your mind to try to make you doubt God's Word
- The good fight of faith occurs in the mind. Satan cannot bring a curse onto us. For Satan to have entrance into our lives we must accept his lies. Therefore, we must resist and cast down his lies.

Casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, 2 Cor 10:5

- We must have a clear understanding of the Word to know what is a blessing and what is a curse.
- We are able to choose what we think.

Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things *are* noble, whatever things *are* just, whatever things *are* pure, whatever things *are* lovely, whatever things *are* of good report, if *there is* any virtue and if *there is* anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things. Phillipians 4:8

I do not fear bad news, nor do I live in dread of what might happen, for I am settled in my mind that Jehovah will take care of me. Psalm 112:7 TLB

# Living in Victory

- Guarding your mind will help you guard your heart
- We are responsible for making our hearts good, fertile, weed-free soil

## **Faith needs a target to be steadfast**

- Faith is the confidence that what we hope for (the target) will actually happen

This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, Hebrews 6:19

- Our faith will have staying power when we see ourselves with the answer.
- Meditation is important to create a clear image in our mind (our imagination) of having what we hope for or are believing for. We must see ourselves with what we are believing for.

This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful 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

- We must meditate on the Word of God. This will help us do the Word which will cause us to be successful.
- What is meditation?
  - Going over in your mind how the Word will impact your life.
  - Using your imagination to visualize the Word, the promise, manifested in your life.

You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you. Isaiah 26:3

- Mind is the Hebrew word *yester*, which means meditation, thought. It is often translated imagination in the Old Testament.
- We need to see ourselves as God sees us.
- Steadfast faith affects our actions. How we see ourselves, our mental image, will affect our decisions.
- Let's contrast Israel not entering into promised land vs. Abraham sacrificing Isaac
  - Numbers 13:25-14:12. They did not enter into the promised land due to unbelief. They saw themselves as grasshoppers. They saw themselves in their own weakness, unable to defeat the enemy.
  - Genesis 22. Abraham was convinced that Isaac was the start of his offspring. So the only way he could offer Isaac as a sacrifice and then continue as his offspring was for God to raise Isaac from the dead.

It was by faith that Abraham offered Isaac as a sacrifice when God was testing him. Abraham, who had received God's promises, was ready to sacrifice his only son, Isaac, 18even though God had told him, "Isaac is the son through whom your descendants will be counted." 19Abraham reasoned that if Isaac died, God was able to bring him back to life again. And in a sense, Abraham did receive his son back from the dead. Hebrews 11:17-19

- Faith is anchored by the hope of seeing God's plan for our lives fulfilled.

# Living in Victory

- Meditating, imagining ourselves living in God's plan for our lives builds hope and expectation.
- Faith works by love. Galatians 5:6
  - Faith is empowered and anchored by the love of God in us wanting our victory to impact those around us.
- Main Point: Faith needs a target. Your mind guides/directs your life. You must see yourself with what you are believing for. Meditation is a critical component of living in victory. Meditation is what creates the images in your mind that will direct your life. Our meditation must be based on the word of God.