



Faith Comes

“So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Romans 10:17, KJV).

Have you ever needed faith and wondered how to get it? Faith is crucial for just about everything in the Christian walk. And sometimes when we find ourselves needing it most, it doesn't seem to be there. I find it comforting to know “faith comes.”

The above verse is essentially a promise. And within every promise of God lies the provision of that promise. That's important. The provision is actually *in* the promise. We can look into God's Word for the provision of every one of our needs. The Word of God has inherent power. It can change lives. It saves, heals and delivers. It is the power to receive everything we need.

God said His Word would accomplish that which He sent it to do. In Isaiah 55:11, we read, “. . . it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.” His Word will be effective. It will not be stopped. If there are conditions, we must meet them. Even then, God's Word tells how to meet the conditions and will enable us to do so if we seek that. If we do not choose to do so, the power lies there untapped.

God says, “. . . I am watching to see that my word is fulfilled” (Jeremiah 1:11, *NIV*). Wherever and whenever God finds someone hearing (actively) His Word, God's Holy Spirit is right there to fulfill that Word. That could be in Sunday school, Bible prayer group, during Sunday morning worship, or your private devotions or Bible study. Whenever we are hearing the Word of God (believing and receiving it in our heart), our

faith is increasing and God is working to fulfill that Word.

As a side note let me say, it is possible to read God's Word or be in the presence of a sermon and not truly hear. We have the ability to dissociate and our enemy Satan has the ability sometimes to distract. It is necessary to connect with the Word in *active* listening to receive the greatest benefit. Having our mind present in the here and now always helps.

Derek Prince, who is one of my favorite authors, wrote about his early preaching and pastoring ministry. He said it was after about four years of preaching that he realized he truly believed what he preached. He was a rather new convert and he knew in his mind God's Word is true. However, it was through almost daily preaching God's Word and through hearing himself speak it that his faith grew. Through actively hearing God's Word, his belief in it came to reside also in his heart—the home of true faith. He also said that was when miracles began to happen in his ministry.

What do you need faith for right now? Find a promise in Scripture. Maybe your faith needs to grow. Be encouraged—“faith comes.”

I've listed some guidelines to leave with you for connecting with God's Word.

1. Read God's Word often. Stop periodically and say, “I believe God's Word is true—for me.”
2. Pray God's Word. He loves it when we speak His Word back to Him and

request Him to fulfill it. Write Scripture verses on note cards to read throughout the day. Put them in your car or on the bathroom mirror—or on the refrigerator. Memorize them. Speak them often.

3. Find promises in Scripture that speak to your current need. Say as Mary said to the angel who spoke some seemingly impossible, incredible promises to her —“Be it unto me according to Your Word” (Luke 1:38).

Nothing may seem to happen for a while. Be assured the Holy Spirit is watching over His Word to fulfill it. A spiritual work is being done and it will manifest in the natural realm in time. Don't give up. You are sowing good seed and you will reap if you do not faint (see Galatians 6:9). **SH**

GOD'S WORD FOR TODAY

Teaching Letter 5

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