

Maintaining Faith During a Dry Season

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Scripture References

Jeremiah 17:7, 8, *NLT*
Psalm 16:11
Psalm 16:11, *NLT*
Proverbs 4:20-27

Luke 17:5-10
Hebrews 10:35-39
2 Corinthians 5:7

Summary

*We all have seasons in our lives in which nothing seems to be happening. This is to be expected; when we find ourselves in a dry season, we maintain our faith as believers by trusting in and relying on God. There are plenty of things we can trust and rely on, but we succeed when we make God, and God only, our confidence and hope. His Word is the doorway to manifestations; studying and applying it is the solution to moving through whatever situation shows up. Conversely, neglecting it and paying more attention to the things of the world causes hardness of heart and blocks what we are waiting to experience. God can do powerful things in our lives, but only if we cooperate with Him by focusing on what He says and screening out all distractions. By steadfastly working our faith until we see what God has promised, we **will** see results.*

A. God's presence causes us to succeed and prosper. We must lean on and rely on Him.

1. But blessed are those who trust in the LORD and have made the LORD their hope and confidence. They are like trees planted along a riverbank, with roots that reach deep into the water. Such trees are not bothered by the heat or worried by long months of drought. Their leaves stay green, and they never stop producing fruit (Jeremiah 17:7,8, *NLT*).
 - a. To be blessed is to be empowered to have success, to win, and to prosper.
 - b. We must ask ourselves what we are trusting and leaning on in the midst of a dry season.
 - c. We demonstrate our faith in God when our hope and confidence are based in His Word.
2. God's presence is the key to overcoming spiritual dryness.
 - a. Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore (Psalm 16:11).
 - b. You will show me the way of life, granting me the joy of your presence and the pleasures of living with you forever (Psalm 16:11, *NLT*).
3. Spiritual dryness and hardness of heart both come the same way; by neglecting God's Word and paying attention to the wrong things.
 - a. Whatever we give our attention to is the thing that will come to pass. If we give more attention to the world and its widespread negativity, we make them our idols.

B. Neglecting God's Word makes us spiritually dry. Working our faith brings manifestation.

1. My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh. Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life. Put away from thee a froward mouth, and perverse lips put far from thee. Let thine eyes look right on, and let thine eyelids look straight before thee. Ponder the path of thy feet, and

- let all thy ways be established. Turn not to the right hand nor to the left: remove thy foot from evil (Proverbs 4:20-27).
- a. There is a reason why God tells us to pay attention to His Word. He wants to bring things to pass in our lives, but He cannot if we are not paying attention to Him.
 - b. This passage is not just religious talk; it is actually instructions for life, given to us straight from God.
2. And the apostles said unto the Lord, Increase our faith. And the Lord said, If ye had faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye might say unto this sycamine tree, Be thou plucked up by the root, and be thou planted in the sea; and it should obey you. But which of you, having a servant plowing or feeding cattle, will say unto him by and by, when he is come from the field, Go and sit down to meat? And will not rather say unto him, Make ready wherewith I may sup, and gird thyself, and serve me, till I have eaten and drunken; and afterward thou shalt eat and drink? Doth he thank that servant because he did the things that were commanded him? I trow not. So likewise ye, when ye shall have done all those things which are commanded you, say, We are unprofitable servants: we have done that which was our duty to do (Luke 17:5-10).
- a. When we make a decision to give God our full attention, we will have opposition that tries to pull us away from His Word.
 - b. We do not need more faith; we simply need to work the faith we *do* have. We must keep our faith out working in the field until the job is done and we see manifestations.
3. Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward. For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise. For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry. Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him. But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul (Hebrews 10:35-39).
- a. Our faith serves us; we must not call it in and tell it to stop working just because we do not see results right away. It may take months or even years, but it *will* accomplish what we send it out to accomplish.
 - b. No matter what, we must not give up, cave in, or quit. Our faith will be rewarded when we use patience. Patience is defined as being consistently, constantly the same in all circumstances. Faith applied over a long period of time is called patience.
4. Faith is not synonymous with our feelings. It operates independently from what we see, feel, or touch.
- a. For we walk by faith, not by sight (2 Corinthians 5:7).

Category: faith

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