A Seed of Faith

Mark 11:22-24

22 “Have faith in God,” Jesus answered.
23 “Truly I tell you, if anyone says to this mountain, ‘Go, throw yourself into the sea,’ and does not doubt in their heart but believes that what they say will happen, it will be done for them.
24 Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.

Matthew 17:20

20 He replied, “Because you have so little faith. Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.”

Jesus described a positive faith experience in Matthew 17:20 when He said that a tiny seed of faith can move a mountain. Not only move a mountain, but move it to where you tell it to go!

By modern definition, faith is described as a “belief and trust in and loyalty to God”. In application, faith in God is knowing that He hears your prayers and understands your situation. It is the assurance that you do not have to cope with difficulties alone.
Faith in God is not optional.

Mark 11:22
22 “Have faith in God,” Jesus answered.

Hebrews 11:6
6 And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Faith is vital to being a whole person spiritually.

Faith in God has a sustaining power that defies definition and logic. It will bring you through a crisis. It will be your doorway to a miracle in a hopeless situation. It will give you peace in chaos. It will make you smile when there is nothing to smile about.

Think about a time of personal crisis when divine intervention was needed. How you feel at that time? How did your faith help you cope with that crisis?

Jesus told the apostles that they could move a mountain with faith like a mustard seed—a seed about one millimeter in diameter. That is like saying you can move mountains with the tip of a toothpick. This seemed so incredible to the apostles that they responded,
Luke 17:5
“Increase our faith”.

The apostles coped with crises in their lives then, as you do today. Their positive, or negative reactions determined their future. Your reaction to a current crisis will affect you similarly. Faith can make you a survivor. Do you have faith? Yes, you do! According to Romans 12:3, you have been given a measure of faith.

Romans 12:3
3 For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you.

How you apply your faith will determine how each crisis affects you.

Looking back, was your faith strengthened during the crisis or after the event?
What lessons can you use from that crisis to strengthen your faith today?

A seed of faith is not intended to lie dormant. It was designed to be planted; designed to grow. As your faith increases, it will give you boldness. It will strengthen you to believe for even greater miracles.
Hebrews 4:16

“Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need”

Faith and hope work together to accomplish the impossible. When your faith is weak and hope diminishes, take positive steps. Strengthen your faith by reading the Word aloud in your daily devotions.

Memorize Scriptures that encourage you the most. As you speak them, believe that these promises were designed specifically with you in mind—that they are God’s personal promises to you.

Keep a prayer list or journal. Write the need and the date you first prayed. When you see God working, even in the tiniest increments, record each date.

Highlight the final date when the situation concluded. When your faith is weak, review the highlighted dates. They will be reminders that God heard you then and is listening to you now.

When you hear good reports from others, rejoice with them. Share their joy while you look forward to the day when they will rejoice with you.

Keep praying!
Ephesians 6:18

“Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere”

Matthew 9:22

22 Jesus turned and saw her. “Take heart, daughter,” he said, “your faith has healed you.” And the woman was healed at that moment. Our faith can heal us.

Matthew 15:28

28 Then Jesus said to her, “Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted.” And her daughter was healed at that moment. Our faith can get a quicker response from God on our prayers.

Mark 9:23

23 “‘if you can’?” said Jesus. “Everything is possible for one who believes.”

Nothing is impossible for those who believe.

Luke 12:28

28 If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith!
If our faith is little faith it causes us to worry about this that God has already promised to take care of for us. So our worry is un-warranted. Which then allows doubt to creep in our minds.

Doubt: Is a feeling of uncertainty or lack of conviction:

That causes fear to creep in, and God did not give us a spirit of fear. But, of love, power, and a sound mind.

Worry leads to doubt which leads to fear.

Romans 1:8
Paul’s Longing to Visit Rome he wrote.

8 First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is being reported all over the world.

True faith is something people will talk about.

Romans 5:2
2 through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God.

It takes faith in God to receive salvation through grace.
Think about it the greatest faith we have in God is when we except Christ as our Lord, and Savior. At this point we have all the faith in the world. And nothing can separate us from the faith that God has saved us. Then why can we not apply this same power of faith in the rest of our walk with Christ?

Romans 10:17
17 Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ.

Faith comes through hearing the word of God.

2 Corinthians 5:7
7 For we live by faith, not by sight.
We must live by faith and faith in God alone.

Hebrews Ch: 11

Faith in Action
11 Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.
2 This is what the ancients were commended for.
3 By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God’s command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.
4 By faith Abel brought God a better offering than Cain did. By faith he was commended as righteous, when God spoke well of his offerings. And by faith Abel still speaks, even though he is dead.

5 By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death: “He could not be found, because God had taken him away.” For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God.

6 And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

7 By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family. By his faith he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness that is in keeping with faith.

8 By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going.

9 By faith he made his home in the Promised Land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise.

10 For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

11 And by faith even Sarah, who was past childbearing age, was enabled to bear children because she considered him faithful who had made the promise.

12 And so from this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore.
13 All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance, admitting that they were foreigners and strangers on earth.

14 People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own.

15 If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return.

16 Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.

17 By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice. He who had embraced the promises was about to sacrifice his one and only son,

18 even though God had said to him, “It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned.”

19 Abraham reasoned that God could even raise the dead, and so in a manner of speaking he did receive Isaac back from death. 20 By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau in regard to their future.

21 By faith Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of Joseph’s sons, and worshiped as he leaned on the top of his staff.

22 By faith Joseph, when his end was near, spoke about the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt and gave instructions concerning the burial of his bones.

23 By faith Moses’ parents hid him for three months after he was born, because they saw he was no ordinary child, and they were not afraid of the king’s edict.
24 By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh’s daughter.

25 He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin.

26 He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward.

27 By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the king’s anger; he persevered because he saw him who is invisible.

28 By faith he kept the Passover and the application of blood, so that the destroyer of the firstborn would not touch the firstborn of Israel.

29 By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as on dry land; but when the Egyptians tried to do so, they were drowned.

30 By faith the walls of Jericho fell, after the army had marched around them for seven days.

31 By faith the prostitute Rahab, because she welcomed the spies, was not killed with those who were disobedient.

32 And what more shall I say? I do not have time to tell about Gideon, Barak, Samson and Jephthah, about David and Samuel and the prophets,

33 who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, and gained what was promised; who shut the mouths of lions,

34 quenched the fury of the flames, and escaped the edge of the sword; whose weakness was turned to strength; and who became powerful in battle and routed foreign armies.
35 Women received back their dead, raised to life again. There were others who were tortured, refusing to be released so that they might gain an even better resurrection.

36 Some faced jeers and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment.

37 They were put to death by stoning; they were sawed in two; they were killed by the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute, persecuted and mistreated—

38 the world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts and mountains, living in caves and in holes in the ground.

39 These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised,

40 since God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect.

Closing Prayer:

Dear Lord, I claim the promise in Your Word that you have given me a measure of faith. I can move mountains of uncertainty, doubt, apprehension, and fear with mustard seed faith. I will nourish that tiny seed of faith you planted in me until it grows into a flourishing tree of faith to believe for all things. Amen.