

The Walk of Faith

2 Corinthians 5:7



Evangelist Doug Lowery

INTRODUCTION

The unsaved of this world walk completely by sight, by their senses, by their own wisdom, and depend completely on themselves to get through life! I don't know how the unsaved do it!! The believer, on the other hand, walks and lives by faith—in the unseen. The Christian seeks God's wisdom and direction and realizes that he needs to abide in Christ and be filled with God's Holy Spirit to make it through life! What a contrast.

Faith in God makes great optimists. Over in Burma, Judson was lying in a foul jail with 32 lbs. of chains on his ankles, his feet bound to a bamboo pole. A fellow prisoner said with a sneer on his face, "Dr. Judson, what about the prospect of the conversion of the heathen?" His instant reply was, "The prospects are just as bright as the promises of God."

"Faith does not operate in the realm of the possible. There is no glory for God in that which is humanly possible. Faith begins where man's power ends."

[George Muller](#)

"The steps of faith fall on the seeming void and find the rock beneath."
[Whittier. This is our message – the walk of faith! It seems to be a scary walk, but it's actually a solid and secure walk. The more we walk by faith and not by sight, the more we should see that walking by sight is the scarier of the two!](#)

1. The Walk of Faith is Mandatory! Hebrews 11:6 *But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.*

Faith (along with biblical repentance/ Acts 17:30 & 20:21) is mandatory for salvation—Ephesians 2:8 and 9; John 3:18. And, it is required if we are to please God as believers. Faith is a key ingredient (1 Corinthians 13:13; 2 Peter 1:5-9) in the sanctification process.

Senator Barak Obama came up with a campaign slogan that was heard by crowds of thousands everywhere he went—“Yes we can!” I’m not going to digress by going into politics; I just want to make this brief point. Though “**yes we can**” is an upbeat and positive slogan, it is also completely man-centered and symptomatic of today’s humanistic spirit. We need to come back to a dependence upon God in our land! We are in great trouble in our nation today, and it’s not a Democratic or a Republican problem, it is a sin problem! What is taking place in Washington is not a laughing matter, but I just read a quote the other day by the humorist Will Rogers that really tickled my funny bone. Though he has been dead since 1935, this Cherokee-American cowboy hit the nail on the head when he said, **“I don't make jokes. I just watch the government and report the facts.”** John Adams (of all people) said, **“In my many years I have come to a conclusion that one useless man is a shame, two is a law firm and three or more is a congress.”**

Now, back to the topic of faith! The wandering Jews questioned God’s provision when they asked, “Can God furnish a table in the wilderness?!” (Psalm 78:19) The correct answer: **“Yes He Can!”** That needs to be our slogan!

Yes, God Can Because—

He is Almighty in Power

He is Bound to His Promises

He is in Control—the God of Providence

He is the Deliverer—the God of Protection

He is Eternal in His Presence

He is Faithful in His Provision

He is Good to His People

(Great project: find several references for each of these 7 points. We all need to stay encouraged by the Word of God!)

2. The Walk of Faith is a Manifestation of the Spirit!

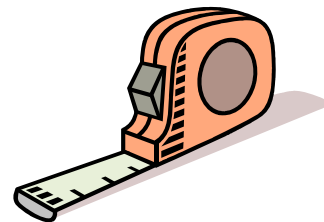
Galatians 5:22-23

The Holy Spirit wants to help us pray (Romans 8:29), fill us (Ephesians 5:18), empower us for witnessing and service (Acts 1:8), guide us (Romans 8:14), teach us (John 14:26), and comfort us (John 14:16) – yet we walk in the power of our own flesh and live as if we didn't need the assistance of the blessed Holy Spirit!



We need to walk in the Spirit if we want to walk in faith!! When the Christian lives day after day in doubt, it is a sure sign that he or she is walking in the flesh and is not filled with the Spirit or walking in the Spirit!

3. The Walk of Faith is Measureable!



How Does Your Faith Measure Up?

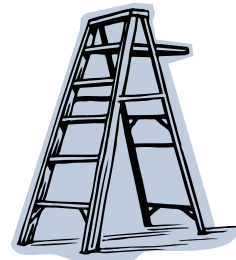
Full of Faith and the Holy Spirit

So Great Faith

Great Is Thy Faith

Little faith

No faith



Start climbing up the rungs of faith's ladder.

No faith Mark 4

39 And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.

40 And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith?

41 And they feared exceedingly, and said one to another, What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?

Little faith Matthew 6

30 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, *shall he* not much more *clothe* you, O ye of little faith?

Matthew 14

30 But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me.

31 And immediately Jesus stretched forth *his* hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?

32 And when they were come into the ship, the wind ceased.

Great Is Thy Faith

Matthew 15

28 Then Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, great *is* thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour.

So Great Faith

Matthew 8

9 For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this *man*, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth *it*.

10 When Jesus heard *it*, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel.

Full of faith & the Holy Spirit Acts 6:5

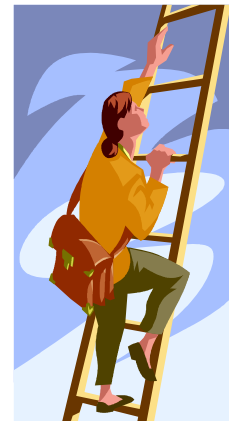
This describes those seven men chosen by the congregation to serve the tables of the widows, and assist the apostles.

Have faith in God.

Mark 11:22

A prayer we all need to pray is found in Luke 17:5:
 “Lord, increase our faith.”

None of us have the faith we should have all the time!
 May we all move ahead and move up the “faith ladder.”



4. The Walk of Faith is Mountain - Moving!

Matthew 17:19-21

- 19 Then came the disciples to Jesus apart, and said, Why could not we cast him out?
- 20 And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.
- 21 Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting.



Sometimes we need to be reminded of what God can do and has done! Hebrews 11 provides a picture gallery of Old Testament saints who had great faith. With your mind’s eye go through this whole chapter and picture these miraculous scenes before you as if you were walking through an art gallery!



Many mountains to move in our lives today:


- The mountain of temptation – of all kinds
- The mountains of fear, anxiety and worry
- The mountain of relationship conflicts
- The mountain of financial pressures
- The mountain of addictions and sinful habits



Remember that nothing is impossible when you put your trust in God – nothing is impossible when you're leaning on His Word. Harken to the voice of God to thee, "Is there anything too hard for me?" Then, put your trust in God alone and rest upon His Word. For everything, yes everything, O everything is possible with God!

5. The Walk of Faith must be Maintained!

How Is Our Faith Maintained & Increased?

- By keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus Christ!! Hebrews 12:1, 2 When we run the Christian race, we must keep looking unto Jesus – the Author and Finisher (think of Him as standing at the finish line!) of our faith. 
- By keeping our minds filled with God's thoughts (Psalm 119:9-11; Psalm 139:17, 18 **Turn to Psalm 139**), thinking the thoughts God would have us think (Philippians 4:8), and by casting down imaginations and every thought that is contrary to Scripture and bringing our thoughts into captivity to the obedience of Christ. (2nd Corinthians 10:4 and 5)
- 4 (For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)
- 5 Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;
- By keeping our memories filled with all of the past blessings of God and the many answers to prayer. Ps 103:2 Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:
- By keeping our hearts free of unbelief **through prayer** (Mark 9:24 *And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief.*) and **persistent watchfulness** (Hebrews 3:12 and 13).

Please turn to this last passage

12 Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.

13 But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

*Have faith in God, Have faith in God;
For without faith He is impossible to please.
Have faith in God, Have faith in God –
May He find us often on our knees.
For He is able to do great things,
Far above what we could ask or think.
Have faith in God, have faith in God
For without faith He is impossible to please.*

Bible chorus by Doug Lowery

What is your slogan for walking through this life?

Yes I can! Or Yes He can!