

Faith makes things Possible

Lighthouse

Issue 8 | Volume 1 | June 2023





Your Faith
CAN MOVE
MOUNTAINS

He said to them, "Because of your *little faith*
For truly, I say to you, if you have *faith*
like a grain of mustard seed, you will say
to this *mountain*, 'Move from here to
there,' and *it will move*, and *nothing*
will be impossible for you.

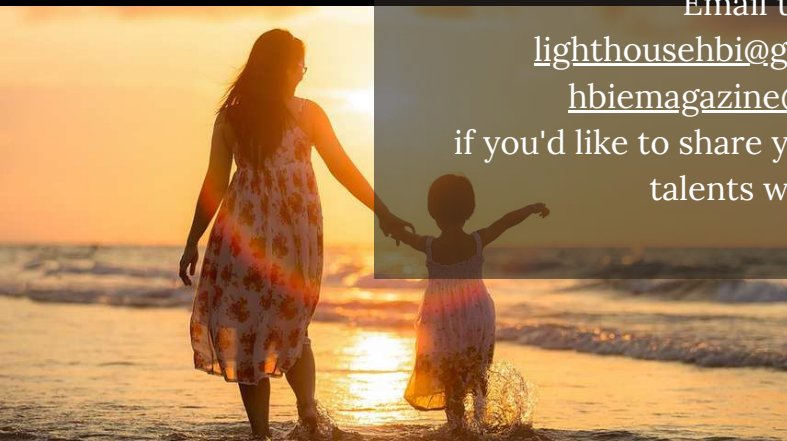
-Matthew 17:20 (ESV)



The Lighthouse e-Magazine is especially for teenagers and young adults. You'll discover something unique and fascinating in every issue of our magazine.

We provide inspirational messages from experienced people, young testimonials, and personal stories, as well as fun activities like Bible puzzles, quizzes, and historical facts. You are always welcome to share your stories and experiences with us.

*Happy
Mother's Day*



Email us at
lighthousebi@gmail.com (or)
hbiemagazine@gmail.com
if you'd like to share your experiences or talents with us.

Mom

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From the Editor

The theme that has been prayerfully chosen for the year 2023 is "Faith Makes All Things Possible". We often struggle with a lack of faith and find ourselves in deep strife.

It has been mentioned that our lives have no meaning unless they are related to the future new heaven and new earth. This we see in Hebrews chapter 11: "the hall of great men and women of faith. Thankfully, the Bible has given us such glowing examples for us to reflect upon and follow.

Hebrews 10:38 and 39 reveal the very heart of God, which states that His righteous one will live by faith and that God takes no pleasure in the one who shrinks back. He goes on to say that we do not belong to those who shrink back and are destroyed, but to those who have faith and are saved.

Dear brothers and sisters in the faith, God then actually defines for us what faith is in Hebrews 11:1 and 2: "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. This is what the ancients were commended for.

Luther put it this way: "Faith is the ring that clasps the diamond, our Lord Jesus Christ" As I tried these ways of describing faith, I began to realise that faith is far richer than all my theological language. It is as all-embracing as life itself, for faith is the heart of our relationship with God, our Maker. No theological language can grasp the depth, breadth, and height of this glorious thing we call faith.

Faith is inseparable from Christian liberty. It is inseparable from prayer, from peace, from hope, from love, from repentance, and from self-denial. Faith must address the hard questions of life: questions of affliction, loneliness, despair, and numbing trials.

We need the simplicity of true saving faith, but we also need mature faith. In the mercy of God, we are treated much better than we deserve: "He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities" (Psalm 103:10). A young boy of twelve experienced a sad occurrence in his family, and he complained to his mother. She replied, saying "Well, it could be worse, It could be worse". She had been saying that for years, no matter what happened. Finally, the young boy got irritated with her responses and asked her why she said that about everything. Her response was stunning. She said, "That's right, son, because we deserve hell, and anything above death and hell is the mercy of God. It could always be worse. When I see who I am and what I deserve, I have no reason to complain, ever!

My prayer is that you will experience this great mercy, grace, and love anew as you walk with God through all the threats and pestilences that plague you, and that the e-magazine will be a blessing to you and will encourage and spur you on in a closer walk with God.

I sign off with verses 1 and 2 of Psalm 67: "May God be gracious to us, bless us, and make His face shine on us, so that Your ways may be known on earth, Your salvation among all the nations.

**STAND FIRM IN FAITH AS YOU TRUST IN OUR GOD THE ALMIGHTY,
OUR RESURRECTED SAVIOUR—OUR REFUGE AND FORTRESS!**

**-Mr. Dev Daniel
Editor-in-Chief**

TEST YOUR BIBLICAL KNOWLEDGE

- 1.This man wrote the first five books of the Old Testament.
- 2.What musical instrument did David play?
- 3.Who was the only female judge in Israel?
- 4.Where does Jesus give his first sermon?
- 5.What was Jesus' profession before he started his ministry?
- 6.After Jesus was crucified, who took His body down from the cross?
- 7.What colour are the four horses in the Book of Revelation?
- 8.What's the final book in the Old Testament called?
- 9.What does David bring to Jerusalem to bless the religious city?
- 10.How many chapters are there in the Old Testament?
- 11.To defeat the Midianites, Gideon opted for which weapons?
- 12.Paul was shipwrecked on what island?
- 13.Who did Jesus call the "Comforter"?
- 14.What happened first - the appointment of Matthew as an apostle or the appearance of the Holy Spirit?
- 15.Identify the following line: Therefore, since through God's mercy we have this ministry, we do not lose heart.

Answers in Pg. 16



FEAR NOT, FRET NOT
AND FAINT NOT



YOU HAVE FAITH
FOR

Bethany Hamilton, who is from Hawaii, has surfed since she was a toddler. She began surfing competitively when she was 8.

“This trust in God, this faith, is the firm foundation under everything that makes life worth living”

She was attacked by a 14-foot tiger shark while surfing at age 13. Hamilton lost her left arm as a result. Through determination and faith in God, she was able to return to professional surfing. Hamilton has since won several national championships and written several books. Her autobiography, "Soul Surfer," was made into a major motion picture in 2011.

Hamilton shared, "As I grew up with one arm and relearned how to surf, God taught me that He can take the hard times that I went through and turn them into something beautiful. She continued, "I look back on my life now, and I am just in awe that God can take a little girl from a tiny island in Hawaii and use my story all over the world to reach so many people." That's faith in the face of fear and challenges.

Everyone places his or her faith in something or someone. The humanist puts his faith in himself, a religious person, in his own good works or ideology. Even the atheist has faith that his rational reasoning has removed the possibility of God. Others have faith in their abilities, skills, connections, friends, family, and themselves. Some others on their positions or possessions. Everyone has faith. The question is, where is your faith anchored? Our faith is only as good as the object in which we place it. On whom or what are you placing your faith?

The Message version of Hebrews 11:1-2 states, "The fundamental fact of existence is that this trust in God, this faith, is the firm foundation under everything that makes life worth living. It's our handle on what we can't see. The act of faith is what distinguished our ancestors and set them above the crowd."

E. Stanley Jones said,
"Faith is not merely you're holding on to God—it is God holding on to you. He will not let you go!"

This creator God, the all-knowing and all-powerful God, allows you and me to have an intimate relationship with Him so that we can place our faith in Him. Isaiah 43:1 says, "But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: 'Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are mine.'"

For our day-to-day lives, it's a wonderful reminder that faith does not make things easy, but it definitely makes them possible. Three simple phrases we need to remember as we carry on in this journey of faith Fear not, fret not, and fail not.

• **Fear Not:**

It is no wonder that the soothing text "Fear not..." appears frequently in the Bible. Fear does, after all, have a way of creeping in on us. We might fear losing someone dear to us, worry about our future or our children's, not have enough financial resources, fear rejection, and so on.

We have over a million what-ifs about tomorrow, filling us with anxiety about circumstances beyond our control. While fear is a common human experience, Scripture promises that God always walks with us. The Psalms are the Bible's great soul book, meant to train us to respond to all difficult feelings and life situations through honest prayer. In Psalm 56, we read that when David was seized by the Philistines, he was afraid. Despite fear, he set his eyes on his Lord and Saviour and said, "When I am afraid, I will trust in you. In God, whose word I praise, I trust; I will not be afraid. What can mortal man do to me?" Psalm 56:3-4.

What is the fear that's trying to take a stranglehold on you now? What threat or trouble are you facing? Watch and pray with David: "When I am afraid of _____, I will trust in you, O Lord."

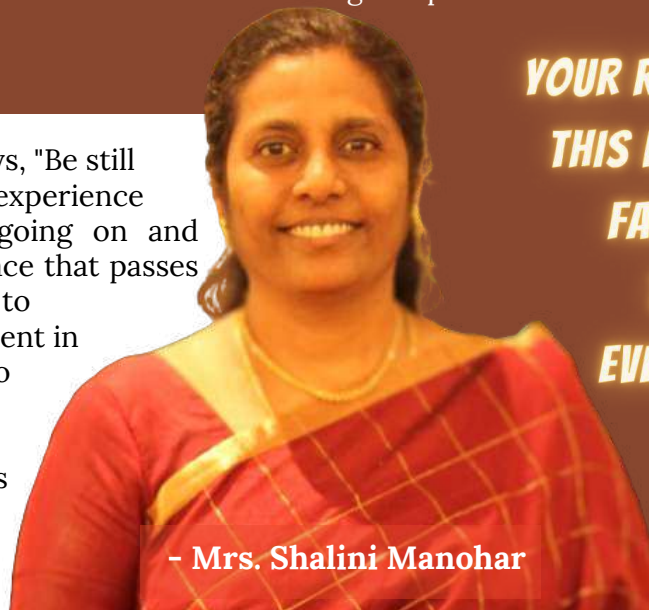
Fret Not: (Worry Not)

Disappointments, defeat, and discouragement cause us to fret (worry). Also, when we see injustice, evil, abuse, and violence happening all around us, we fret because we are powerless to stop them. We fret when we have no control over those things and such people. Most of us have experienced these feelings at some point or another. We also fret when someone who didn't work that hard gets better results than us. We fret when the wicked prosper and the righteous suffer. We fret over the evil in the world today, allowing fear and anxiety to envelope us.

Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him; fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way, over the man who carries out evil devices! Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath! Fret not yourself; it tends only to evil. For the evildoers shall be cut off, but those who wait for the Lord shall inherit the land.

Psalm 37:7-9

In the above verse, the psalmist says, "Be still before the Lord". Faith helps us to experience God's presence amid all that's going on and allows us to be still with God's peace that passes all understanding. Faith enables us to understand that our God is not absent in such situations but very present. So instead of fretting over the terrible things that are happening around us, as the famous hymn encourages us, "**Take it to the Lord in prayer**".



- Mrs. Shalini Manohar

DON'T GIVE UP



Faint Not: (Don't give up)

When life throws up lots of tough moments and challenges, the tendency is to give up on it. We want to quit the difficult relationships, difficult situations, difficult jobs, difficult people, and sometimes life itself. That's not the solution, though it might look easy to give up.

The Christian life and ministry can grow wearisome and hard at times, but with Christ Himself as our example, the Lord admonishes us not to faint but always to press on.

If our prayers seem to go unanswered, He reminds us that "men ought always to pray and not to faint" (Luke 18:1). When we grow tired and are tempted to quit, Scripture assures us that "in due season we shall reap, if we faint not" (Galatians 6:9).

As Isaiah 40:28-31 highlights,

God gives power to the faint; and to those who have no might, he increases strength, as well as to those who wait upon the Lord.

As Bethany Hamilton said, believe that God can take the hard times that you go through and turn them into something beautiful. So fret not; don't give up.

**YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH
THIS LIVING GOD MAKES
FAITH POSSIBLE, AND
THAT FAITH MAKES
EVEN THE IMPOSSIBLE
POSSIBLE.**

PERSISTENT & PATIENCE

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**are the two sides
of the coin in success**

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Bible Quiz

Princy Kirubha

Participants can register by visiting: joinmyquiz.com

Enter this code:

9808 3346

Deadline: June 14, 2023

YOUR FAITH ANSWERS PRAYERS



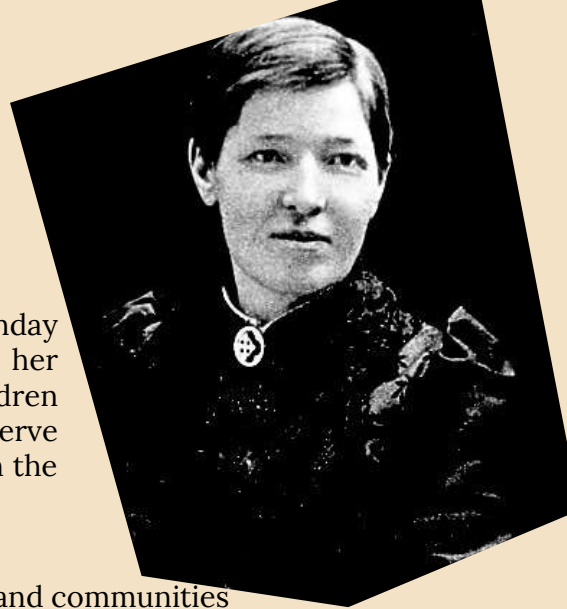
George Mullere was delighted as he saw that there was enough milk and bread for the 300 thirsty children. George had faith in God, and God answered his prayer by working miraculously.

Mary Slessor

A Mother of Many Twins

Mother's Day is celebrated worldwide every year on the second Sunday of May. A mother plays an important role in shaping the lives of her children. A mother who is rooted in the word of God guides her children to inspire lives and lead a witnessing life for Christ. We are called to serve as ambassadors of God's love and to live it out rather than just preach the gospel.

Mary Slessor is an example of a woman who has faith in God and has demonstrated His love, compassion, and generosity to inspire people and communities in the deep jungles and among the dangerous tribes of Africa. She became the mother of many in her 39-year journey as a missionary. Read on to learn more about her life and missions in Africa.



The United Presbyterian Church dispatched many missionaries to Calabar, West Africa, in 1846, and most of them were assassinated there by the locals. Mary went to Calabar to proclaim God's love 30 years later and is now regarded as one of the most courageous women in the history of missions. Mary Slessor was born on December 2, 1848, to a shoemaker in Aberdeen, Scotland. In God's Word, she found comfort, joy, and strength. Both her mother and six siblings were captivated by the Bible readings and the missionary stories, particularly those from Africa. Mary was inspired by Dr. David Livingstone's life and wanted to go to Africa as a missionary. Her mother sent her willingly, saying:

“My child, I will willingly let you go.” “You will make a fine missionary, and I'm sure God will be with you.”

Calabar: Nigeria's Largest Coastal Slave City

Mary Slessor was moved by the people's suffering in Calabar, Nigeria, where superstition and paganism were practised and human sacrifices were made near riverbanks for fishing success. The Calabar locals' most horrifying deed was the killing of twins by burying them alive or leaving them exposed; their mother was killed as well because they believed twins were the product of an evil spirit. Along with their dead husbands, the wives of chiefs and great men were buried alive. Their slaves were put to death by being beheaded and thrown into graves. In addition to these horrible practises, the entire country was in a dire state due to slavery and an ongoing war.

Mary Slessor as a Missionary

Before being sent to "The White Man's Grave" on the West Coast of Africa, Mary Slessor underwent specific training for missions. She also learned the local people's language, Efik. On August 5, 1876, Mary left Scotland for West Africa to serve the people of Calabar after deciding, at the age of 28, to devote her entire life to missions in Africa. Because of her love for Christ, she was not frightened by the customs and practises of the African people. She devoted herself to leading people to Christ, starting schools for children, and defending those who were mistreated and abused. She committed herself to living a Christian life that bears witness to her faith and served the people for three years, but she contracted a terrible fever that required her to return to Scotland for treatment.

In 1880, Mary Slessor returned to Calabar. Her first act of missionary work was to stop the twins' murder. She brought the twins home and assisted several poor mothers who were to be murdered for having twins. She worked for several years in Calabar before deciding to venture into the interior of Africa. In 1886, she crossed the river to reach the Okoyong tribe.



Mission Work Among the Okoyong Tribe

On August 3, 1888, as Mary was preparing to sail to Okoyong, a few of her Christian friends in Calabar bade her farewell, saying, "We will pray for you, but you are courting death."

Upon reaching the coast of Okoyong, she encountered a violent, strong tribe of Bantu origin who were lighter skinned than other Nigerian blacks and had a finer physique. Their favourite skill was headhunting. As a woman, seeking permission to settle among this oppressive and cruel tribe was challenging. She brought with her the twin children she had adopted in Calabar, and she wanted to build a mission home in Okoyong. As brave and determined as she was, Mary Slessor travelled across the river to Ekenge in 1888 to seek Chief Edem's permission to construct a mission home in his village. Recognising Mary's bravery, the Chief's sister persuaded her brother to let her live among them.



The mission compound was full of twin children and their mothers, who were destined to be killed. Mary Slessor scoured the woods every day to find babies and bring them back to the mission compound. Once, Chief Edem's son was crushed under a heavy log, and their witch doctor advised them to slaughter the neighbouring tribe as a propitiatory sacrifice. Mary Slessor boldly stood against this burial rite, and through her persistent pleas, she saved the victims from a cruel death. Instead, a cow was sacrificed at the grave, and that was the first time in Okoyong burial custom that a cow was not saturated with human blood.

Mary Slessor never forgot the one major task that had drawn her to Africa. She persevered in evangelizing about Christ. She conducted services within the mission's grounds, educated the native children every day at the school, and visited their houses to give them guidance and comfort.

An epidemic of smallpox broke out, and Mary Slessor turned her house in Ekenge into a mission hospital, leaving it in the charge of native helpers while she hurried to the more populous town of Akpap, where she fought the disease single-handedly. Even Chief Edem was infected, and she took care of him until he passed away.

Mary Slessor worked endlessly for the people of Africa, extending her missions to parts of Itu. She was welcomed with respect and love by the native people everywhere she went. She found an industrial home near Itu and requested new workers from Scotland. She also urged the Missionary Council to provide motor cars for their missionaries to move from place to place.

One city named Iban refused to receive Christian missionaries. Mary Slessor pleaded with the Chief and gained victory, for which she wrote to her friends, saying, "**I am the happiest and most grateful woman in the world.**"

When the World War broke out, she was devastated, as her own country was involved in the struggle. She collapsed, but with the help of medical care, she rallied and returned to her mission, where she taught her classes and conducted services.

She passed away on January 13, 1915, as the dawn was breaking, at the age of 62. The natives were saddened and cried, saying,

“Our mother is dead. Everybody's mother has left us.”

She was buried at Calabar on Mission Hill. Her 39-year missionary journey has brought the darkened country of Africa to light and the life of her Lord. H. Morrison thus writes of her:

“To heathen Africa, she gave a new conception of womanhood, and to the world at large, she gave an imperishable example of Christian devotion.”

God still excels at doing the impossibly using human instruments who will say,

“Not my plans, not my glory, but God's plan, and His glory.”

Valedictory Service 2023



Dr. Paul Ebenezer



Dr. Jaganathan Susai



Mr. Jethro Rinchungnunga Chhangte
Award for Academic Excellence (M.Th)
& SFPC Proficiency Awards



Mr. Joshua Smith C. (M.Div)
SFPC Perseverance Award



Mr. Victor Kumar (M.Th)
SFPC Service Award



Graduates 2023 (M.Th | M.Div)



From Left: Mr. Jethro | Mr. Victor | Mr. Zalipu | Mr. Joshua | Mr. Prince (During Commitment)

The Graduates Final Commitment Statement

“ We will grow, we will develop with God's wisdom and spirit,
We pray that we can use our abilities to serve in the care of our communities and for all mankind. ”



"We pray that our graduates will remember our witness and sharing and they will develop their skills for the betterment of the church and the world and that they will witness with us what they have received from the Lord."

Grace of Sustaining

*The God
who
Sustains*

-Mr. Isaac Newton

Read **John 6:35**. Jesus says, "**I am the bread of life.**" Why might Jesus choose that image?

Psalm 23 begins with, "**The Lord is my shepherd.**" In your life, how has God encouraged you through Psalm 23?

The Grace of Sustaining

We have discussed the grace of acceptance. This is the foundation for ministry. Yet, grace also sustains us in ministry. The grace of sustaining is the next in the cycle. It is also something we receive from God.

“

Read Jeremiah 17:7-8

1. How does a tree flourish? What does God want us to know through this image?
2. What does God want for us? Not from us, but for us?

We are God's servant leaders. We care for God's people. But God is the Chief Shepherd.

”

God's Work for His Church

Read Acts 2:47

1. Who added to the number of believers?
2. How does this passage help leaders trust God with the burdens of caring for people and the church?

Many church leaders are burdened. We see trauma, pain, and grief. But we are not alone. God himself will care for each person's need. Jesus helps us see how we are to work with God.

Read Matthew 11:28–30.

Think about the context Jesus said this in—he worked hard in ministry too.

1. A yoke is often designed for two oxen to carry the load together. Who carries the yoke in Matthew 11:29?
2. What does Jesus want for you, not just from you?
3. Describe a church leader who has also found rest in Jesus. What would be the leader's motives and attitudes? What are specific ways the leader might express trust in God?
4. What pressures do leaders feel that make the burden feel heavy? Or, if you are willing to share from your own experience, which pressures do you feel?

Share practical things we can do to help us work from an attitude of rest.

Planting Seeds of Practise

Together as a group now, read Mark 6:31. Before the next session, we will obey Jesus' example:

“

1. Think of a quiet place to go this week for a small retreat. Where will you go?
2. You may choose to go for half an hour or half a day. The length of time is up to you. You may have to say no to other activities. But the best thing you can do for your church is to remain faithful to God. When will you go?
3. Share with someone in the group and pray for each other. If you are doing this individually, ask someone to pray for you.

”

During this time with God:

1. Read Mark 6:31 again to begin your time.
2. Perhaps there is something pressing on your heart to share with God in prayer.
3. Or, you may use the little retreat guide that follows this lesson.

Blessing

May you feel the eternal arms beneath you. May you feel the Holy Spirit going before you, caring for the needs you face. May you feel Jesus' walking with you in each and every need.

Rooted in the Gospel

God meets our great needs. He shows this most clearly in Jesus Christ, who took on all the sins, shame, and needs of this world on the cross. God is always working to build his church and care for his people. We can give him our burdens. 1 Peter 5:7.

Source: This material is a section of the Timothy Leadership Training video and pdf course; if you are interested in studying this material as a group, please contact Mr. Isaac at (+91) 8438534525 or isaacbsf@gmail.com

WORD SEARCH



Instructions

- Click the image to start or [Click Here](#)
- Once you complete the puzzle, take a screenshot using print screen button on your keyboard.
- Send the screenshot to lighthousebi@gmail.com (or) hbiemagazine@gmail.com

April Issue Winners

Bible Quiz



Mrs. Princy



Mr. Isaac Newton

Answers for 'Test Your Biblical Knowledge in Pg. 5

1. Moses | 2. Harp | 3. Deborah | 4. On the Mount | 5. A carpenter |
 6. Joseph of Arimathea | 7. White, Red, Dark and Pale | 8. Malachi |
 9. The Ark of the Covenant | 10. 929 | 11. Trumpets, pitchers, and lamps | 12. Malta |
 13. The Holy Spirit | 14. The appointment of Matthew as an apostle | 15. 2 Corinthians 4:1

HOW TO HANDLE PEER PRESSURE?

Romans 12:2 "Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing, and perfect will".

Peer pressure will be a fleeting thing in our lives and occur at all stages of life. It's a feeling that one must do the same things as other people of one's age and social group in order to be liked or respected by others.

Why do we face peer pressure? When you are influenced by other people (your peers) to act in a certain way. Young children are mostly deeply involved in scaling themselves up to be recognised and appreciated by others. Example: If a young person is out with a group of people and their behaviour seems to turn out to be worldly pleasures, and the conversation pushes to meet the pleasures, it tempts a young person to get involved and get into it.

Now the trend has right from the outfit food we eat, and the we use while to the usage of social Toks, Vlogs, and apps). It has been influenced by all especially young children.

changed a lot, we wear, the vocabulary conversing, media (Tik various chat highly age groups,



As believers and children of God, how do we handle peer pressure? The Bible clearly tells us that we should not expect our lives to look like the lives of other people (non-believers) in this world.

We must develop a new mindset: Hebrews 12:11

- Mindset of strength and discipline
- Make lifestyle choices out of that new mindset.
- Put God first in everything we do and say.

Show genuine love for others, not a desire to be famous. Colossians 3:14; Matthew 6:1

- The Christian faith is all about love.
- Not to show off or gain popularity

Don't be ashamed of Jesus. Matthew 10:32

- Stand strong for Christ, whatever the situation.
- Never deny Jesus for worldly pleasures

Stop being influenced by others. 1 Corinthians 15:33

- Avoid places of gossip, texting, or going out for parties.
- Avoid bad company.

As the Bible says in Matthew 5:14, "You are the light of the world". Let you be a light and influence others around you for the kingdom of God. Be firm in serving God with your life.

- Ms. S. Rebecca Sunitha

From Fear to Confidence

-Bro. Phillip Ruben



Once, when a baby camel questioned his mother about why they had long feet while others had small ones, she replied, "God made it that way so we can walk comfortably on the desert sand." The baby camel then asked why they had long eyelashes, to which the mother explained that it was to protect their eyes during sandstorms. When he asked why they had two humps, the mother explained that they were for storing food and water. After some thought, the baby camel asked his mother, "If we were created to live in the desert, then why are we in the zoo?"

Similarly, we as humans who live under God's mighty wings often limit ourselves in cages like zoo animals rather than living a free life knowing God is in control. People can be categorised into three types:

- 1) One who lives in the past and does not appreciate the present
- 2) One who is afraid of the future and does not appreciate the present
- 3) One who lives in the present and forgets about the past

Fear always engulfs youngsters preparing for exams and even people who experience failure in life or business. Many people are afraid of marriage because of the abuse they witnessed as children in their own homes. All our fears make us miss out on life's good moments and the purpose of God in our lives.

In Exodus 17:10,13,14, we can read that Joshua was to fight Amalek, and Moses, Aaron and Hur went up to the hilltop. When Moses raised his hand, the Israelites were winning, and if he put his hands down, Amalek was winning. Aaron and Hur held Moses' hand until the sun went down. Joshua discomfited Amalek and his people with the edge of his sword. And in Joshua 17:14,

And the LORD said unto Moses, "Write this for a memorial in a book, and rehearse it in the ears of Joshua; for I will utterly put out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven."

Let us examine Joshua's life. Three significant lessons can be drawn from his life:

- **The Call of Joshua**

When we read Joshua 1: 1-3 we see that the Lord took Moses into His presence and the Israelites grieved his death for a month.

- ¹ After the death of Moses the servant of the Lord, the Lord said to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' assistant,
- ² "Moses my servant is dead. Now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the people of Israel. Every place that the sole of your foot will tread
- ³ upon I have given to you, just as I promised to Moses.

The Lord wanted Joshua to understand that the battle was victorious because of God. He wanted Joshua to know that the victory is not his but the Lord's. When Moses died, the Lord chose Joshua as the leader. Joshua had fear as he had seen how the Israelites were rebellious with God and Moses, but God told Joshua to not live in the past but focus on the future and lead the people of Israel to the promised land.

We are slowing God's purpose in our lives because we are afraid that the past will repeat itself again. We see God asking Joshua not to look back and mourn over Moses' death, but to press on with God's plan of leading the Israelites to the promised land. God is telling you today to not live in your failures and fear of the past, but to move forward relying on God because God is going to do new things in your life, just as the mission continues even after the leader passes away, and the church continues with its purpose even after the death of its pastor.

- **The Courage of Joshua**

If we read Joshua 1:6,7,9, and 18, we will see that the phrase "strong and courageous" appears four times. As a human, Joshua would have been fearful of having to lead a group of rebellious people who questioned Moses' leadership. God is encouraging Joshua to be strong and courageous. Similarly, we may be living in fear; it might be fear of examinations, fear of launching a new business, or fear of marriage, among other things, but the Lord is telling you today to be courageous and face your fear with confidence.

When we read Joshua 1:3-5, we can understand that God makes two promises to Joshua:

- **Promise of Possession (Joshua 1:3,4)**

God is giving assurance that whether it is Moses or Joshua, His promise of giving the promised land to Israelites will never change because our God is an unchanging God.

- **Promise of Protection (Joshua 1:5)**

Once, a US Army soldier escaped from the enemy troop and hid in a cave. He started pleading with God to spare his life and save him from his enemies. Soon, he heard the footsteps of the enemy soldiers and was crying out to God for help. Suddenly, the soldier saw a big spider making a cobweb at the entrance of the cave.

The soldier said to God, "**God I asked for a brick cover but you are putting a spider web**".

After few minutes he heard the enemy soldiers talking to each other saying, this cave has a large spider web and there is no way a man could have entered this cave without destroying the cobweb. God heard the soldier's cry and protected him from his enemies. Never underestimate the power of God. When God says, "I will not forsake you, I will be with you" it is a certainty and not a possibility.



Be strong and courageous, dear friends, like Joshua. Suffering, sickness, and storms are three things that we will all experience at some point in our lives, and we shall succeed when we rely on God and His promises.

You may put on a brave face and smile in front of people, but your heart may be overwhelmed inside due to all the trials and tribulations you are facing. But worry not; God is asking you to believe in Him and obey His word, and He will take care of you (Joshua 1:7-9).

We may read the Bible out of habit, but are we obeying God? God commanded Jonah to set out for Nineveh, but he disobeyed and sailed to Tarshish instead. As a result, God sent a storm to turn Jonah's focus back to His purpose. Similarly, we may be heading in a direction that God has not intended for us, and the storms serve as warnings for us to re-route our path and yield to God's purpose, which is the key to success in life.

Disbelief and disobedience are two factors that hinder us from witnessing a victorious Christian life.

Jesus saith unto her, Said I not unto thee, that, if thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God?

- John 11:40

• The Confidence of Joshua

In **Joshua 1: 10-17**, Joshua commands the people of Israel to be prepared to take possession of the land that God has chosen for them. The people were willing to follow Joshua, just as they were with Moses. Even though Joshua was aware of the people's rebellion against God and Moses, he placed his trust in God regardless of what the people stated.

Likewise, we must always rely solely on God. Your family and friends might abandon you, but God will never leave you or forsake you. When you rely on Him, He will keep His promises to you. Be strong and courageous, and press forth with confidence in God, as Joshua did.

The four lessons we can take from Joshua's life are as follows:

1. Don't let fear and failure get in the way of God's purpose for your life.
2. Trust God's promises because they are certainties, not possibilities.
3. The secret to success is to obey God's word.
4. Confidence is finding your strength and courage in God.

BIBLE

FACTS



There are **365 Bible verses** specifically dedicated to fighting fear. Whether you're feeling weak, hopeless, or afraid, you can take comfort in the fact that **God is with you every day of the year.**

The **29th chapter of Job** is **halfway** through the Old Testament and the **8th chapter of Romans** is at the **center** of the New Testament? This symmetry is interesting and valuable to know.

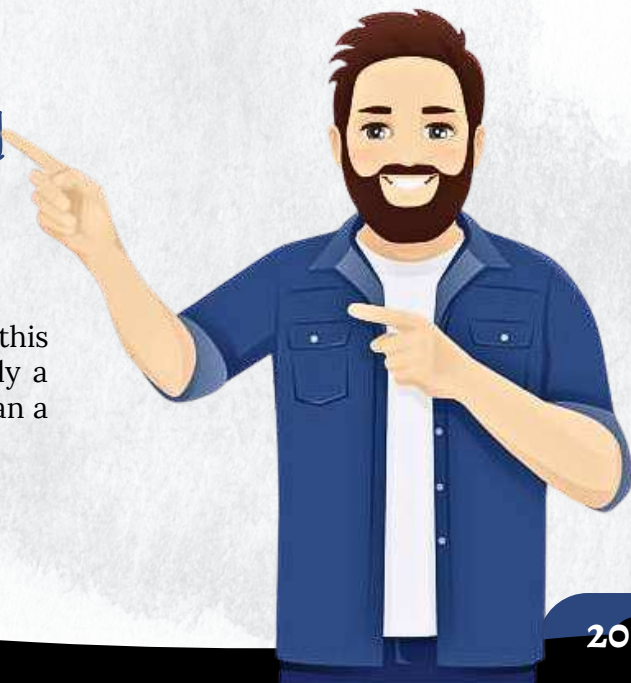


David was not the first musician. **Jubal**, son of Adah and Lamech is the **father of all musicians** as he is the ancestor of those who "play the harp and flute" (Genesis 4:21)

According to the Book of **Deuteronomy (29:23)**, two further cities were **destroyed by fire and sulphur** in addition to Sodom and Gomorrah. Those two cities were **Admah and Zeboim.**



There is no description about how Jesus looked on this earth or but it is believed that **Jesus was** most likely a **Middle Easterner with dark skin and hair**, rather than a fair-skinned European Christian.



- Faith -

MAKES THINGS POSSIBLE

-Mrs. Princy Kiruba

Faith can be explained as believing with strong conviction. Faith is a basic principle in our lives. Everything is moving around by faith. Faith or trust in yourself can make you feel better and help you move forward. It will make your life better than now. In the Bible, we have the Hall of Faith, which contains many faith heroes. Those teach us many lessons, and they are applicable in our daily lives. In many people's lives, with their faith, impossible things became possible.

When I started learning things from Bible I was a bit confused while I read about Rahob in the Genealogy of Christ. Basically, everyone knows that she is a prostitute & also a Canaanite lady. I have a thought how come it happened? But later I start to understand the ways of God in her life and how she got a prestigious position in Bible.

First, Rahob believes in the God of Israel. **(Joshua 2:9-11)** She lives in Jericho, she heard the mighty works of God. Most probably everyone knows all that happens in the midst of Israel. But she is the only one to believe that their God is the only God and that Israel people will take over the Jericho one day. Others were thinking of how to fight the situation but she was thinking about what is good for her and her family. She believed in God and she declared "The LORD your God, He is God in heaven above, and in earth beneath." Joshua 2:11 and God sees her faith. In our life, we might have the situation of harder things might surround us, and all our doors will be getting closed. Others may give you suggestions to way out, but you just put your faith in God fully who can do wonders.

Others may think the step you took is not good, but when you believe and put your faith in God everything will be possible. According to the Moses law, a Prostitute or Canaanite person cannot enter the temple, but her Faith leads to a greater example for others. The greater reward she received was that she is one of the ancestors of Jesus Christ.

According to this, when you put your faith in God, He will show you the way to make the impossible possible.



Hall of Faith Heroes

Secondly, God will show a way when you have faith in Him.

God sees the Rahob's faith and showed a way to get saved during Jericho's fall by saving the spies. The way she put her life to risk in saving the spies of Israel is the pay that she gave for a better life. She had a very bad past but now she believing the God who made the Heaven and earth and had faith that saving the spies will be a pleasing thing before God. And also she believed that God will reward her by saving her life and family. Sometimes we may also be in a situation to save ourselves our and families from hard times. Just do things that please God, remember all your bad past will be removed and you will get abundant blessings from God.



I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me

I walk by faith and not by sight

I become a better version of myself everyday



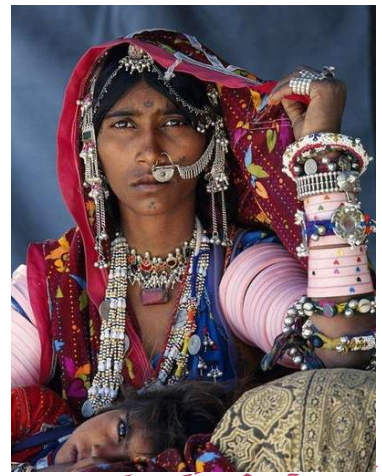
I am precious to God and He will take care of me.

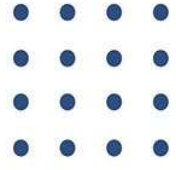
THE BANJARAS

The Banjaras were a nomadic tribe that originated in the Marwar region of Rajasthan. Historically, they were merchant tribes that traded all over the north-western and southern parts of India. Now, they reside mostly in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Karnataka, West Bengal, and Telangana. They are one of the largest tribes in India, with an estimated population of over 10 million. The tribe has a rich culture and history.



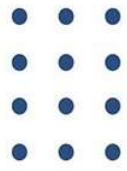
They are known for their colourful costumes as well as their unique musical traditions. The languages widely spoken are Telugu, Urdu, and Lamani. Their main occupation is agriculture, but they are also skilled in traditional handmade embroidery with mirror work.



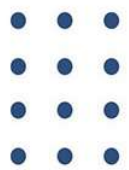


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Vision

To be a guiding light to direct people to run their race with perseverance without being wavered by the storms or broken by dangerous perilous rocks.

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