

## Further Up and Further In Moving Into New Levels of Faith

### 1. Faith has I \_\_\_\_\_

Romans 12:3-6

<sup>3</sup> 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. <sup>4</sup> For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, <sup>5</sup> so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. <sup>6</sup> We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith;

2 Thessalonians 1:3

We ought always to thank God for you, brothers and sisters, and rightly so, because your faith is growing more and more, and the love all of you have for one another is increasing.

Matthew 17:14-20

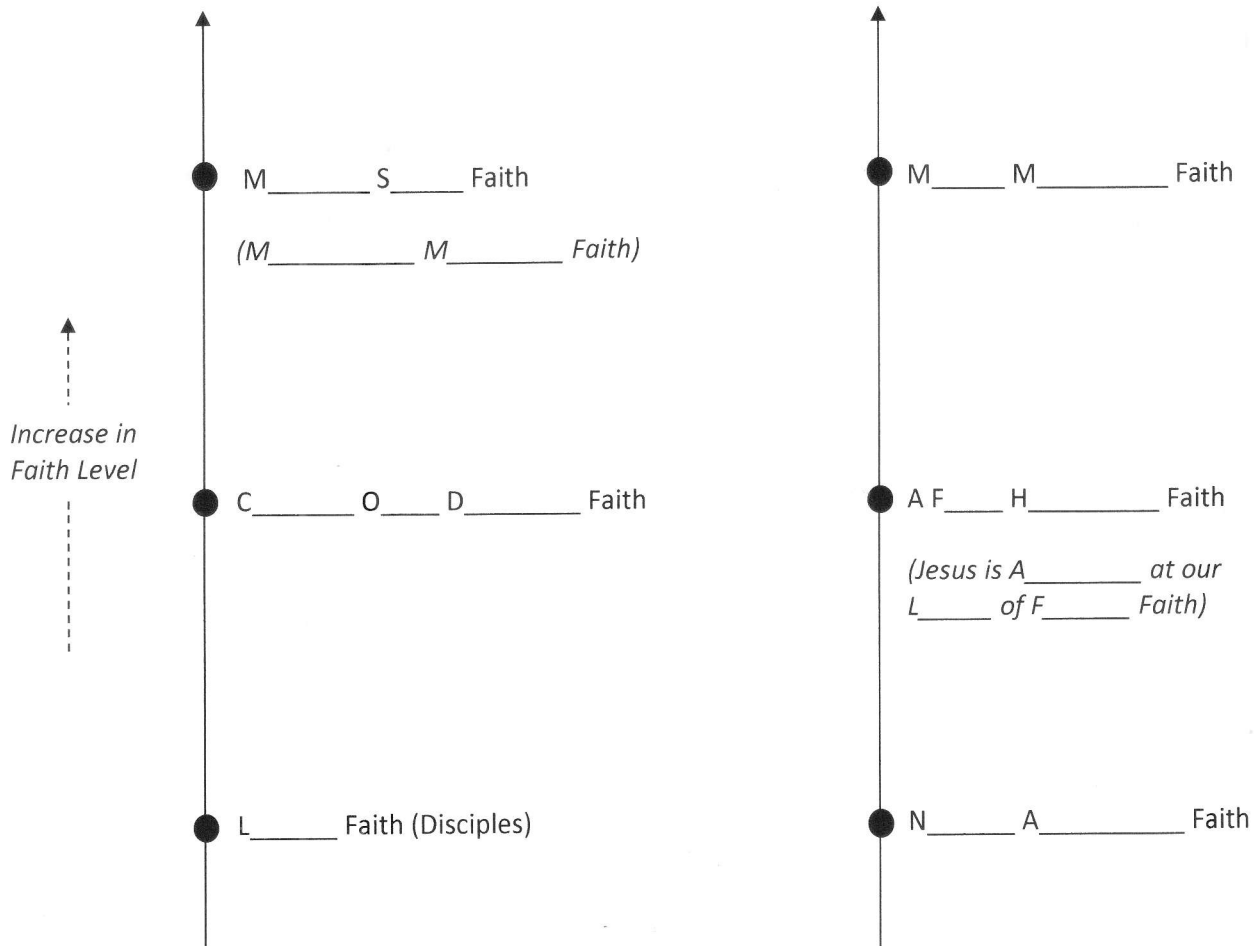
<sup>14</sup> When they came to the crowd, a man approached Jesus and knelt before him. <sup>15</sup> "Lord, have mercy on my son," he said. "He has seizures and is suffering greatly. He often falls into the fire or into the water. <sup>16</sup> I brought him to your disciples, but they could not heal him." <sup>17</sup> "You unbelieving and perverse generation," Jesus replied, "how long shall I stay with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring the boy here to me." <sup>18</sup> Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of the boy, and he was healed at that moment. <sup>19</sup> Then the disciples came to Jesus in private and asked, "Why couldn't we drive it out?" <sup>20</sup> 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."

Mark 6:1-6

<sup>1</sup> Jesus left there and went to his hometown, accompanied by his disciples. <sup>2</sup> When the Sabbath came, he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were amazed. "Where did this man get these things?" they asked. "What's this wisdom that has been given him? What are these remarkable miracles he is performing?" <sup>3</sup> Isn't this the carpenter? Isn't this Mary's son and the brother of James, Joseph, Judas and Simon? Aren't his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. <sup>4</sup> Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his own town, among his relatives and in his own home." <sup>5</sup> He could not do any miracles there, except lay his hands on a few sick people and heal them. <sup>6</sup> He was amazed at their lack of faith.

Matthew 17:14-20

Mark 6:1-6



2. Faith Looks a \_\_\_\_\_

Hebrews 11:7-8

<sup>7</sup>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. <sup>8</sup>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.

3. "Don't let your f \_\_\_\_\_ become your p \_\_\_\_\_"

1 Corinthians 2:9

"What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no human mind has conceived"—(those are) the things God has prepared for those who love him—

4. "What you have right now is n \_\_\_\_\_ e \_\_\_\_\_ for what God p \_\_\_\_\_ to do through you."

1 Kings 17:7-16

<sup>7</sup>Some time later the brook dried up because there had been no rain in the land. <sup>8</sup>Then the word of the LORD came to him: <sup>9</sup>"Go at once to Zarephath in the region of Sidon and stay there. I have directed a widow there to supply you with food." <sup>10</sup>So he went to Zarephath. When he came to the town gate, a widow was there gathering sticks. He called to her and asked, "Would you bring me a little water in a jar so I may have a drink?" <sup>11</sup>As she was going to get it, he called, "And bring me, please, a piece of bread." <sup>12</sup>"As surely as the LORD your God lives," she replied, "I don't have any bread—only a handful of flour in a jar and a little olive oil in a jug. I am gathering a few

sticks to take home and make a meal for myself and my son, that we may eat it—and die.”<sup>13</sup> Elijah said to her, “Don’t be afraid. Go home and do as you have said. But first make a small loaf of bread for me from what you have and bring it to me, and then make something for yourself and your son.”<sup>14</sup> For this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: ‘The jar of flour will not be used up and the jug of oil will not run dry until the day the LORD sends rain on the land.’”<sup>15</sup> She went away and did as Elijah had told her. So there was food every day for Elijah and for the woman and her family.<sup>16</sup> For the jar of flour was not used up and the jug of oil did not run dry, in keeping with the word of the LORD spoken by Elijah.

**5. Faith must be a \_\_\_\_\_**

Ephesians 2:8

For it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith...

**6. Faith knows how to p\_\_\_\_\_ in the glory**

Exodus 3:1-4

<sup>1</sup>Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. <sup>2</sup>There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. <sup>3</sup>So Moses thought, “I will go over and see this strange sight—why the bush does not burn up.” <sup>4</sup>When the LORD saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, “Moses! Moses!” And Moses said, “Here I am.”

**7. Faith is, simply, a "y\_\_\_\_\_"**

Matthew 21:28-32

<sup>28</sup>“What do you think? There was a man who had two sons. He went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work today in the vineyard.’ <sup>29</sup>“‘I will not,’ he answered, but later he changed his mind and went. <sup>30</sup>“Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing. He answered, ‘I will, sir,’ but he did not go. <sup>31</sup>“Which of the two did what his father wanted?” “The first,” they answered. Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you. <sup>32</sup>For John came to you to show you the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did. And even after you saw this, you did not repent and believe him.

**8. Expanding faith is necessary for an expanding m\_\_\_\_\_**

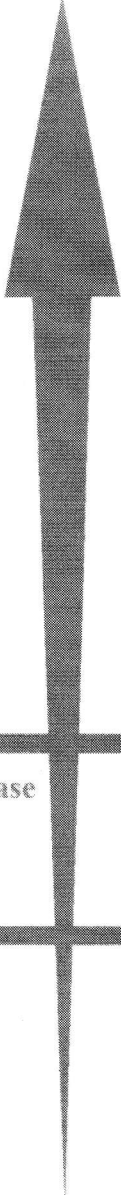
2 Corinthians 10:12-18

<sup>12</sup>We do not dare to classify or compare ourselves with some who commend themselves. When they measure themselves by themselves and compare themselves with themselves, they are not wise. <sup>13</sup>We, however, will not boast beyond proper limits, but will confine our boasting to the sphere of service God himself has assigned to us, a sphere that also includes you. <sup>14</sup>We are not going too far in our boasting, as would be the case if we had not come to you, for we did get as far as you with the gospel of Christ. <sup>15</sup>Neither do we go beyond our limits by boasting of work done by others. Our hope is that, as your faith continues to grow, our sphere of activity among you will greatly expand, <sup>16</sup>so that we can preach the gospel in the regions beyond you. For we do not want to boast about work already done in someone else’s territory. <sup>17</sup>But, “Let the one who boasts boast in the Lord.” <sup>18</sup>For it is not the one who commends himself who is approved, but the one whom the Lord commends.

Romans 12:3

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.

## Levels of Faith (...and Their Results)

| Faith Level:  | Events:   | Scripture:  |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
|  <p>Great Faith</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● "everything is possible"</li> <li>● healing for others</li> <li>● healing for self</li> <li>● freedom from demonization</li> <li>● killing fig trees and moving mountains and trees</li> <li>● whatever you ask for in prayer</li> <li>● unlimited forgiveness for a person who sins against you many times</li> <li>● persevering prayer</li> <li>● bouncing back after failure toward God</li> <li>● greater works than Jesus</li> <li>● chosen for ministry</li> <li>● people brought to the Lord</li> <li>● expressions love and service</li> <li>● freedom and confidence before God</li> <li>● a shield against the flaming arrows of Satan</li> <li>● resurrection from the dead</li> </ul> | <p>Mark 9:23<br/>           Matthew 8:10,13; 9:2; Acts 3:16; James 5:15<br/>           Matthew 9:22,29; Mark 10:52; Luke 17:19; Acts 14:9<br/>           Matthew 15:28<br/>           Matthew 21:21; Luke 17:6<br/>           Matthew 21:22<br/>           Luke 17:5<br/>           Luke 18:1-8<br/>           Luke 22:32<br/>           John 14:12<br/>           Acts 6:5<br/>           Acts 11:24; 16:5<br/>           Galatians 5:6; 2 Thessalonians 1:11<br/>           Ephesians 3:12<br/>           Ephesians 6:16<br/>           Mark 5:36; John 11:40</p> |   |   |
|   | <p>Increase<br/>In<br/>Faith</p>  | <p><i>"I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!"</i></p>   | <p>Mark 9:24<br/>           See also: Romans 12:3,6; 14:1,2<br/>           for evidence of weak and strong faith and levels of faith</p>  |   |
|   | <p>Little Faith</p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● unable to free from demonization</li> <li>● unable to understand Jesus' teaching</li> <li>● incomplete miracles — unable to trust Jesus above circumstances</li> <li>● few miracles</li> <li>● no freedom from fear — even in the presence of Jesus</li> <li>● unable to trust for daily needs</li> </ul>  | <p>Matthew 17:17,20<br/>           Matthew 16:8<br/>           Matthew 14:31<br/>           Matthew 13:58 (Mark 6:5,6)<br/>           Matthew 8:26<br/>           Matthew 6:20</p>  |   |
|   |   | <p>No Faith</p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● minimalizing, rationalizing away God's obvious work in others</li> <li>● unable to experience God's rest</li> <li>● everything is sin</li> <li>● unable to please God</li> </ul> | <p>John 9:18<br/>           Hebrews 3:12,19<br/>           Romans 14:23<br/>           Hebrews 11:6</p> |