

June 18, 2014

EXTREME FAITH

Where is your
faith?..

Name:

Take me home!



FAITH ..

Where will your faith take you?....

Faith we all say that we have it and that is the very reason that we say that we believe in Jesus. But where is your faith leading you? When was the last time that you really believed that your faith grew or changed? Do you think that faith has a ceiling and once it reaches that point you cant go any further? How far has your faith gone?

Think about the day that you first used your faith. It might be the day that your earthly father or mother told you to jump to them from the edge of the pool. They were calling you out to trust them that they would catch you and not let you drown. You looked at them and then you trusted them and jumped. You learned something that day. You learned that you could trust have faith in your father or mother. Over the years that trust (faith) would grow and you would trust them for more and more. Sometimes your faith in your mother and father may have been well broken because then were not able to complete the task that they asked you to trust them in. That's okay they are human, and well sometimes we fall. There will be another day that your faith will be called on and you will have to have faith in them again.

When we talk about faith, we of course think of Jesus and the faith that we have in Him. Is your faith growing? Are you trusting Him and showing Him you have faith in Him? Faith has to be worked out and used for it to grow. In Matthew 17:20 Jesus had this to say to His disciples. 20 He replied, "Because you have so little faith. I tell you the truth, 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. " I always feel good when I read this verse, because even His disciples did not always get it right. They needed to be encouraged and pushed forward. So I feel like I am not failing completely when I don't have enough faith. It also encourages me to keep going! There is always something more for me to learn and for me to see. Faith has no ceiling and if it did then you would have to say that the ceiling would be to move mountains from one spot to another. So when you think about your faith be encouraged, for we all have room to grow and to see our faith become something truly wonderful. Never stop looking for ways to grow your faith and your relationship with God!

Living Extreme means...

The two pictures tell the story. One a tiny dot in-between two fingers (a mustard tree seed.) The other a very large tree grown from the mustard seed. Our faith can be small but it will also be powerful to grow into greatness. If it is as small and great as a mustard seed we can move mountains. We all have faith God gives us faith to believe. We then need to take the faith that He has given us and grow it into something so wonderful. Some people I know have amazing faith and amazing dependence on God. I long to have a greater faith as they have. I try to work at it each day because I have seen my faith grow from well disbelief to a dependence on God that is pretty amazing. What makes it amazing is God! He is so wonderful to allow us to have faith in Him. I know that I am not worthy at all. But God is extreme! and when we realize that He is extreme things change and grow. In the end it is God who is extreme and because of Him our faith can grow. So if you want to be extreme in your faith just keep believing that God is so way extreme and awesome!

Would you rather....?

...Get bitten by 100 Mosquitoes or stung by 10 Bees?

...heal a leper or turn water into wine?

...bring about world peace or eliminate all hunger and disease?

CHARACTER

Is your character built on faith? What we have faith in defines us and makes us who we are. Your faith should help define your character and cause you to become someone who is growing and changing. If you have faith in God then your character will be defined by God and grown by God. Your faith will guide and direct your choices and decisions as you live each day!

Think About it...

(watching your

Have you ever had a plant, or maybe a pet that you got when they were young? Crazy thing but they grew if you did your part. Like give the plant water, and sunshine and watch it grow! Same for the pet, give it water, food and love and well watch it grow! That is the order of the world, how much did you had to think about growing. You are taller than when you in the first grade aren't you? Did you have to think and do a ton of stuff just so that you would grow? No. It just happened as you went about the things you do in life. Eat healthy, drink plenty of water, milk, juice, play hard, and get good rest each day and you grow!

If that is the way things grow in the world around us then it goes to say that is the way that our faith grows. God is a God of order not confusion, so it makes sense that our faith will grow very much like we grow physically. We need to feed our faith, we need to give our faith a drink, and we need to stand in our and rest in God. When you do these things your faith will grow year after year.

So it looks like this:

Food: We feed on the living word of God. Just like your body needs food to grow, our faith needs food. Jesus said in Matthew 4:4 Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

our faith. It needs to feed on the word of God. Simply put Read the Bible, and you will be giving your faith food to grow.

Water: Next we need to give our faith a drink, just like we need to drink for our body to work, our faith needs to drink so that it can sustain life. Jesus said in John 7:37-38 37 On the last and greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. 38 Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him."

to grow and be sustained by Him. I think of praying like getting a drink of water for my soul and my faith. I sprit gets thirsty and I pray and then I am not thirsty any more. My faith Grows because I turn to Him.

Rest: Just like our body needs rest so does our faith, but it is not a sleeping rest, for our faith is always with us and it must remain with us at all times. It not like well right now I don't believe in God, so my faith is resting. No, we rest our faith when we rest our lives in God. The Bible puts it this way in Psalms 46:10 "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."

the peace that covers us cause lets face it our lives can be crazy and we need to rest in His peace, and know that everything will be okay.

The final thing that helps our faith grow is a desire to grow. Just like when you were young you wanted to grow. You wanted to become taller, you wanted to do things on your own, because when you could do them on your own it meant growth. So take sometime this week and read the Bible, Pray to God and rest in Him. If you do these simply things your faith will grow! If you have any questions just ask any of the leaders of The XGT Experience!

DIG IN

Matthew 17:20

20 He replied, "Because you have so little faith. I tell you the truth, 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. "

Finish this Sentence:

(Fill in the blank... How would you finish this sentence?)

***If I had more faith I could...**

***What do you think is impossible?**

***Take a look at Matt.20:17 what do you think it means?**

***What will you do to see your unfinished sentence become true?**
