

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Take me home!

Knowing How  
God Sees You!

January 24, 2018

## EXTREME FAITH

encounter  
God Through Jesus

### UNDERSTANDING FAITH

**A power source within you.**

When you hear the word faith what comes to your mind. For most of us we think of blind faith but that really does not define faith.

Because faith is not blind. Faith sees everything, faith sees more clearly than our eyes see. Faith with our eyes increases our vision and our understanding of the world around us. So here is a question for you to think about, "When was the last time you did something completely out of faith?" I have to admit that is a pretty hard question. But it is a question that is worth asking. When do you use your faith to see the world around you differently? God has a lot to say about faith, and the Bible makes it very clear that faith is key to pleasing God, because without faith we cannot even believe in God. So if you have faith how much do you use it? Do you see it as a power source within you? Something that you live by?

Tonight we are looking at faith and what faith can do in our lives. Many of us have faith that Jesus is God's Son and that He paid the price for us and we are forgiven because of our faith. This is a good thing, this is an important thing. But some of us have only used that portion of faith we have gone deeper to understand the power source of faith.

How do you achieve the things that you achieve? Do you do it in your own strength? Or do you pull from the power source of faith. Many of us just get things done by our own strength and our own abilities. This is cool and this works but what if you were to

pull from the power of faith? What if you were to try things that scare you to death, and you did it from faith? God has made it clear that because of our faith we have conquered the world, but if we have beaten the world then why do we all struggle? Check out this promise from God.

1 John 5:3-5 3 Loving God means obeying his commands. And God's commands are not too hard for us, 4 because everyone who is a child of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world--our faith. 5 So the one who conquers the world is the person who believes that Jesus. Wow if you believe in Jesus then you have the power source of faith inside you and that power source allows you to conquer the world. Now if you can believe that then you can believe that you can achieve anything that you set your heart to. When you set out to achieve it you must pull on your faith. Pulling from faith is really easy but you have to make it a practice a thing that you truly seek to do. Do you do what you do and think about God and His promises that you can do it? Or do you just do things out of habit and action. Pulling from your faith defeats fear and leads you to trust and lean on God. When I pray for healing for my children's bumps and bruises that happen, I need to pull on my faith that God heals and takes away the pain, I must pray as I pull on my faith, not just pray to say the words, I have to believe. My faith in my belief is me saying that I believe God at His word and that is pulling on the power source of faith. Your faith will grow as you pull on it, as you tug on it and depend on it! Faith is a power source so use it!

*Would you rather...?*

...do something alone or with help?

...stay the same or grow beyond your wildest dreams?

Think

Don't

One a scale of 1-10 ten being the highest where would you put your faith?

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Think of a time that you depended on your faith more than anything else?

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Why do you think faith is so powerful?

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What do you make of the verse "We live by faith, not by sight"

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Think about the story that we looked at tonight how can you apply your faith to your friends to help them meet Jesus?

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What do you find hard about loving God and showing Him you love Him? How can faith help you with this?

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2 Corinthians 5:7

7 We live by faith, not by sight.

1 John 5:3-5

3 Loving God means obeying his commands. And God's commands are not too hard for us, 4 because everyone who is a child of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world-- our faith. 5 So the one who conquers the world is the person who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.



# CHARACTER

## EXTREME ENCOUNTERS

Every day our character is on the line...Everyday we can do things from our own strength or we can pull from the power source of our faith. When we pull from our faith we are increasing our relationship with God and increasing our trust in God! If you have faith and do not use it to do things that grow you, your faith will not grow. This week I challenge you to live out of your faith and do incredible things. Things that you never thought you could do, do them out of faith. Talk to your friends, pray for your friends. Live risking your life that others might come to know Jesus and have freedom. You have the faith, you just need to use it and you will see it grow!

## THE WHOLE STORY

and what we should learn from it...

### Mark 2: 1-12

1 A few days later, when Jesus again entered Capernaum, the people heard that he had come home. 2 So many gathered that there was no room left, not even outside the door, and he preached the word to them. 3 Some men came, bringing to him a paralytic, carried by four of them. 4 Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus and, after digging through it, lowered the mat the paralyzed man was lying on. 5 When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven." 6 Now some teachers of the law were sitting there, thinking to themselves, 7 "Why does this fellow talk like that? He's blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" 8 Immediately Jesus knew in his spirit that this was what they were thinking in their hearts, and he said to them, "Why are you thinking these things? 9 Which is easier: to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up, take your mat and walk'? 10 But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins...." He said to the paralytic, 11 "I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home." 12 He got up, took his mat and walked out in full view of them all. This amazed everyone and they praised God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"

### What We Should Learn From It:

#### About Jesus:

Jesus Sees faith and acknowledges it with action.  
Jesus heals because of the faith that the young men had to bring their friend to His feet.

Jesus is teaching something different from the teachers of the law.  
Jesus has all authority He can forgive sins, without a payment.  
Because of Jesus's action and power the people praise God!

#### About God:

God works through Jesus to show people how much He is pleased by faith.  
God longs to make people whole and well, both in forgiveness of sins and in healing.  
God sees what is in our hearts, and longs to see us freed.

#### About the paralyzed man and his friends:

The man on the mat and his friends had a great deal of faith and courage to see that their friend was made whole.  
They would go to extreme measures to see that their friend had a chance to be at the feet of Jesus.

#### About The Teachers of the Law:

They judge words and actions more than they see the good of actions.  
To keep their power and keep things as they are they would rather see the young man remained crippled.  
They do not see with faith, they see only with their eyes.

#### The Crowds:

They hunger for a teaching that is different that the law they have been taught  
They hunger for the spiritual things and spiritual ways of thinking,  
They have an appetite for lean more about God  
They are amazed by the healing and the teaching of Jesus,  
They worship God, because they see God in Jesus in all that He does and says.

#### About Us:

We need to be hungry for God.  
We need to live by faith more and more....  
Faith is key to seeing great things in our lives.

## Take the Character Challenge...

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