

Kenneth E Hagin on

Faith



Kenneth E. Hagin

Your Believing Affects Your Receiving

In Mark 9:23, Jesus said, “If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.” According to this and other verses in the Bible, what you believe determines what you receive from the Lord. In other words, your believing affects your receiving.

Notice I said that your believing affects your receiving. Your receiving isn’t based on another person’s faith; it’s based on your faith. And just hearing someone else preach the Word won’t give you faith to receive unless you get into the Word for yourself.

Years ago, I preached at a small Full Gospel church in Kansas. The pastor told me that more than half of his congregation had not received the baptism in the Holy Ghost. They were good Christian people, but they hadn’t received this Bible experience. So at the pastor’s request, I spent several evenings teaching on the baptism in the Holy Ghost and how to be filled with the Spirit. Each night, I encouraged the people to bring their own Bible to the services so they could read along with me and not just take my word for what I was teaching. You see, I wanted them to see it in the Word for themselves.

One of the members of the church was a leading businessman in the city. Unfortunately, this gentleman came to church straight from work each evening, and he never brought his Bible. He came every night to hear me preach, but he never read the scriptures for himself. Faith

As we neared the end of the meetings, everyone in the church except this businessman, had received the baptism in the Holy Spirit.

Although he'd heard the same teaching everyone else heard, he still hadn't received.

I finally said to the man personally, "Bring your Bible to church," and the man brought his Bible with him to the next service. He sat there and followed along with me, reading for himself what the Bible said on the subject of being filled with the Holy Ghost.

As I was nearing the end of the service, this man stood up, closed his Bible, and said, "I can't wait! I can't wait! Lay hands on me right now. I'll be filled now!" By the time he got down to the altar and I barely touched his forehead, he had both hands up and was talking in tongues fluently!

Now why didn't he get filled previously? Hadn't I preached the same message? Hadn't I used the same scriptures? Yes! But he didn't have faith for himself all those other nights. He heard my faith, but he couldn't see it for himself. And without light—without seeing it for himself and having revelation and understanding on the subject—he had no faith to receive. But when the light came, and faith rose up in his own heart, he received!

Afterward, this man told me he'd been brought up in a Full Gospel church and had been a member for more than 30 years. He said, "I can see why you wanted me to bring my Bible and read for myself. You quoted those scriptures in the previous services, but when you read them then, I interpreted them according to what I already thought they said. I've been in Sunday school and church all my life, so I assumed I already knew what those verses meant.

"But when I had my Bible right there in front of me, and as I read those scriptures, I began to see that they didn't say what I thought they said. You weren't even finished with your lesson when—suddenly—it registered! Faith rose up in me, and I just couldn't wait. I had to be filled immediately! And I was!"

This man finally had faith because he had light. He saw the truth of God's Word for himself, and when it registered on the inside of him, faith came. And his faith enabled him to receive what he desired. He didn't have to wait. He received immediately!

Some people quote the same scriptures they've heard a preacher quote and wonder why they don't get results. They'll say, "I'm standing in faith that it will happen sometime." But they never receive. Why? Because if light hasn't come—if the truth hasn't dawned on their heart—faith is not there. But when the light comes, faith is present! And when faith is there, people aren't waiting for "sometime." They believe they receive right now (Mark 11:24)!

I received the New Birth by faith. And I was healed, raised up from the deathbed, by faith.

I also received the baptism in the Holy Spirit and spoke with other tongues by faith. Where did I get the faith to receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit? From reading the Word of God. Speaking of the gift of the Holy Spirit, Peter said in Acts 2:39, "For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call." That includes me!

Acts 2:4 says, "And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance." I received the same New Birth they did in the Book of Acts. So I expected to receive the same endowment of power they received. The light of God's Word on the subject had come, so by faith, I received the Holy Ghost and spoke with other tongues.

I had read all those verses from Acts chapter 2 before, and I had quoted them. But the light didn't come the first time I read them. That's why you need to get in the Word for yourself and stay in the Word—the light of the truth of the Word can dawn on your spirit. You need to

keep meditating on the Word concerning healing or the baptism in the Holy Ghost—or whatever it is you need to receive from God. Sooner or later, if you'll continue to meditate on it and speak it, the truth will register in your spirit. The light will be there, and you will receive whatever it is you want or need from God.

Just as the New Birth is not a mental experience or a physical experience, healing and the baptism in the Holy Spirit are not mental or physical experiences (although it is manifested on the outside, divine healing is spiritual—it starts on the inside, in your spirit). You receive healing or the baptism in the Holy Spirit the same way you receive the New Birth. You receive revelation and understanding in your spirit first. And just as sure as you receive it in your spirit, it won't be long before what you are believing shows up on the outside. But the manifestation doesn't always show up instantly.

Sometimes people have to contend—stand their ground—in faith until the manifestation comes, especially in the area of healing. But I think we often make a mistake by talking so much about standing and not as much about receiving. For example, it would sound ridiculous to hear someone say, “I went to the altar and asked Jesus to come into my heart. I cried and prayed, asking God to forgive me and to cleanse me from all unrighteousness. Now I'm waiting for the manifestation of my salvation. I'm just standing in faith for the answer.” No, Jesus died for your salvation. He bought it and paid for it in full. You can receive it now!

I want you to understand this: Salvation, healing, and the baptism in the Holy Ghost are all gifts that you receive now! And you receive salvation, healing, and the baptism in the Holy Ghost in your spirit, or your heart. The Bible says, “With the heart man believes” (Rom. 10:10).

Faith is of the heart. How does faith come? By hearing the Word of God (Rom. 10:17). So when ministering on the baptism in the Holy

Spirit, for example, I show people what the Word of God says about the experience.

From Acts chapter 2 through Acts chapter 19, almost every time it is recorded that folks received the Holy Ghost, it says or infers that they spoke with tongues (Acts 2:1–4; Acts 8:14–18; Acts 10:44–46; Acts 19:1–6). So when I minister to people, I make sure they expect to receive the baptism in the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in tongues. I say, “I’m going to lay my hands on you. The Holy Ghost will come upon you. Your tongue will want to say something that isn’t English; just speak it out.”

When I lay hands on people who are in faith, expecting to receive, they instantly start speaking with tongues. How do they get that kind of faith? By hearing the Word of God concerning the baptism in the Holy Spirit—by believing and accepting the Word of God for themselves. Their believing affects their receiving.

You can receive from the Lord in the same way! Whether you need salvation, healing, the baptism in the Holy Ghost, or some other gift God has provided, you can receive by faith in God’s Word. Your believing affects your receiving!

Receiving From God for Yourself

We receive from the Lord in the same way that people in the Bible received from the Lord—whether it is salvation, healing, the baptism in the Holy Spirit, or some other gift God has provided. We receive by faith.

This fact is emphasized in James 1:5–7, which tells us what to do if we are lacking something in our life. The Apostle James said that we are to ask of God, but instructs us to ask in faith in order to receive.

JAMES 1:5–7

5 If any of you lack wisdom, LET HIM ASK OF GOD, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

6 But LET HIM ASK IN FAITH, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.

7 For let not that man think that he shall receive ANY THING of the Lord.

James begins this passage talking about receiving wisdom, but he ends the passage talking about receiving anything. Well, healing, or anything else the Word promises, is certainly included in “anything,” because “anything” includes all things!

Does “anything” also include the baptism in the Holy Spirit? Certainly, it does. And a person receives the baptism in the Holy Spirit the same way he or she receives anything else from God—by faith.

GALATIANS 3:5

5 He [Paul] therefore that ministereth to you the Spirit, and worketh miracles among you, doeth he it by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?

The Bible tells us how the Apostle Paul was able to minister the baptism in the Holy Spirit and to work miracles among the people. It was "...by the hearing of faith." But if we're not careful, we'll think, Well, yes, but Paul was an apostle, and God endowed the apostles with special power. If we had their same power and anointing, we could do the things they did. But Galatians 3:5 just told us exactly how Paul ministered! He did it by the hearing of faith! In other words, those people received from God through Paul's ministry by their hearing faith preached to them.

The Word of God makes it clear that faith, or believing God's Word, brings results and that we receive from the Lord by faith. Let's look at several more scriptures that prove this important point.

MATTHEW 21:22

22 And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.

MARK 9:23

23 Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.

MARK 11:23-24

23 For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.

24 Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

We are studying how to receive from God. We know from these verses that we receive by faith, or by believing. We also know from these verses that "all things" are possible to those who believe. Well, "all things" means anything, doesn't it?

We know we must believe, but where does this believing take place? The verses we've studied so far show us that believing takes place in our heart, not in our head. Let's look at another passage that further proves this fact.

ROMANS 10:8–10

8 But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach;

9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and SHALT BELIEVE IN THINE HEART that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

10 For WITH THE HEART MAN BELIEVETH unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Did you notice that the word “heart” and some form of the word “believe” or “faith” are used in each one of these verses? Verse 10 says, “. . . with the HEART man BELIEVETH unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.” But it's also true that whatever we receive from God comes the same way—by faith, or by believing. And it's with our heart, not our head—our intellect or our physical senses—that we believe.heart

I want us to study something further that the Word of God has to say about the heart. We're told to believe with our heart, but what is the heart? First Peter 3:4 says, “But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.” Here Peter uses the terms “hidden man of the heart” and “spirit” interchangeably. Our heart is our inward man, or our spirit.

We know from Scripture that man is a three-part being: spirit, soul, and body (1 Thess. 5:23; Heb. 4:12). We don't believe God with our soul (which involves our intellect and emotions) or with our body. We believe God with our spirit, or heart.

When the Bible talks about believing with our heart, it isn't talking about believing with the physical organ that pumps blood throughout our body. It's talking about believing with the inward man, or our spirit.

Faith is of the heart, the spirit, of man. In other words, you believe on the inside. And what you believe on the inside is manifested on the outside. God starts working on the inside of a person and works to the outside. For example, healing doesn't start on the outside—it starts with your believing in your heart (on the inside). When you pray, you believe that you receive, and then you shall have the healing you desire (on the outside).

We saw in Romans 10:17 that faith comes by hearing the Word of God. And we saw in Galatians 3:5 that Paul was able to minister the baptism in the Holy Spirit, healing, and other miracles “by the hearing of faith,” or by the people hearing faith preached. But it's important to note that they had to accept and receive for themselves—into their own hearts—the Word that Paul preached.

Many times, Christians just accept what someone else says instead of studying the Bible for themselves. I've always encouraged people not just to take my word for something but to study the Bible for themselves. In other words, don't take this teaching and say, “Brother Hagin said such-and-such.” Find out for yourself what the Bible says and say, “The Bible says such-and-such.” What I say, or what anyone else says, is unimportant unless it's scriptural.

Find out for yourself what the Bible says and repeat that, not just what you heard someone else say. If the Bible says it, repeat it. But if the Bible doesn't say it, don't repeat it! Don't accept what any preacher says unless you can read it for yourself in the Word. We're not to follow any man; we're to follow God.

Faith for healing won't come just by hearing me preach about healing, unless you see it in the Word and accept the Word for yourself. And faith won't come just by listening to teaching tapes or to messages you hear on the radio or on television. Faith comes when you hear God's Word, accept the Word for yourself, and believe it in your own heart.

Christians ought to look up every scripture that's given in a sermon and feed on those scriptures on their own time. Instead, many of them just take the preacher's word for it and try to live off what the preacher knows and believes. I know good people who are saved and filled with the Holy Ghost who spend their time listening to all sorts of teaching tapes—they've been listening for years—yet they don't have an ounce of faith. Bless their darling hearts, they think they have faith. But they're big talkers and little doers. In other words, they're talking big, but they're actually living very little of what they've heard.

I can't emphasize enough the importance of hearing in connection with faith. But you must also study the Word of God for yourself for faith to come. You must believe God's Word for yourself—in your own heart—to receive from Him. Yes, God will work miracles and initiate some miraculous things on His own at times, but that is not the ordinary way to receive from Him. So don't sit around and wait for something to turn up. Get in the Word for yourself, believe it in your heart, and then do what the Word says!

How to Increase Your Faith

In teaching on the subject of faith, it is important to show people from the Scriptures that God has not blessed one person with more faith than He has blessed someone else. Folks often see someone prospering according to the Word, whether in his health, his finances, his family, and so forth, and they get the mistaken impression that God must have given that person more faith. So the first thing I want you to know is this: Every believer has been given a measure—the same measure—of the God-kind of faith.

EPHESIANS 2:8

8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: IT IS THE GIFT OF GOD.

ROMANS 12:3

3 According as GOD HATH DEALT TO EVERY MAN the measure of faith.

So we know that faith comes from God. It is the “gift of God.” But He has given it to every believer. He has given to every believer the measure, or the same measure, of faith.

MeasureNotice also that God has done it (Rom. 12:3); it’s not something that He is going to do. We’re not trying to get faith. We’re not praying for it. We have it. Every believer already has a measure of the God-kind of faith.

You see, God gets everyone started off the same way. He doesn’t give one person more faith than He gives another. He gives to every man the measure of faith. Then your faith grows according to what you do with it.

A lot of people have done with their faith what the fellow in the Bible did with his one talent (see Matthew 25:25). They've just wrapped their faith up in a napkin, so to speak, and hid it. They haven't used it at all.

It's up to you what you do with the measure of faith God has given you. So the second thing I want you to know is this: This measure of faith can be increased. But you're the one who increases it, not God.

Certainly God furnishes the means whereby faith can be increased. But you increase your faith by doing two things: feeding it on the Word of God and exercising it—or putting it into practice.

The Bible very often uses natural human terms to teach spiritual thoughts. For example, this is how Jesus taught in His earthly ministry, as we can read in the Gospels.

MATTHEW 4:4

4 ...Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

Jesus is using a natural human idea to convey a spiritual thought. He's saying to us that what bread (or food) is to the body, the Word of God is to the spirit, or the heart, of man.

You know that if you eat food regularly, it will build you up physically. Yet if you eat right but don't exercise, all you'll do is get flabby and out of shape.

In much the same way, you need to feed your faith on God's Word. But you also need to exercise your faith, because if you don't, your faith muscles will be flabby. They won't be able to do much spiritually when it comes to moving mountains in your life.

You can feed your spirit on God's Word and thereby feed your faith, because God's Word is faith food. But you also need to exercise your faith to develop it and cause it to grow.

In Romans 10:8, Paul called the message he preached the word of faith. He called the Word of God the word of faith, because the Word will cause faith to come into your heart (Rom. 10:17). God's Word will build assurance, confidence, and faith in your heart. Then you're to exercise that faith.

So we know that the measure of faith we've received can be increased by doing two things: by feeding it on God's Word and by putting it into practice (or exercising it) in everyday living.

One person said, "You either have faith or you don't." In one sense, that's true. You're either a believer or a non-believer. But in another sense when people say that, they are implying that every believer has faith in every respect the same as another believer. But that's not true. One person's faith may not be the same as another person's faith. There can be a measurable difference! You see, the Word of God tells us that our faith can grow. Therefore, one person's faith may not be as developed or as strong as another person's faith.

Remember, it's up to you what you do with the measure of faith God has given you. For example, you can cause your faith to grow. You can feed and exercise it so when the storms of life come, you will have strong faith. But another person may not do anything with his faith. The person who does nothing with his faith will have weak faith.

Second Thessalonians 1:3 says, "We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is meet, because that your FAITH GROWETH EXCEEDINGLY. . . ." God is saying that faith can grow. Well, since faith can grow, it can be either strong or weak—developed or undeveloped.

Let's look at several other statements Jesus made about faith.

LUKE 12:28

28 If then God so clothe the grass, which is today in the field, and to morrow is cast into the oven; how much more will he clothe you, O YE OF LITTLE FAITH?

MATTHEW 14:28–31

28 And Peter answered [Jesus] and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water.

29 And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus.

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?

In these passages of Scripture, Jesus is speaking about little, or small, faith. In Matthew 14:31, Jesus asked Peter, “O you of little faith, why did you doubt?”

In Matthew chapter 8, Jesus commended the faith of the centurion who came to Him on behalf of his servant. Jesus said the centurion had great faith.

MATTHEW 8:5–8,10,13

5 And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto him a centurion, beseeching him,

6 And saying, Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented.

7 And Jesus saith unto him, I will come and heal him.

8 The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed....

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....

13 And Jesus said unto the centurion, Go thy way; and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee. And his servant was healed in the selfsame hour.

Jesus said to the disciples about the centurion, "...I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel" (v. 10). So in these passages we've read, Jesus told one man that he had great faith and told another man that he had little faith.

Romans 4:19 speaks of weak faith.

ROMANS 4:19

19 And being not WEAK IN FAITH, he [Abraham] considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sara's womb.

The very next verse speaks of strong faith.

ROMANS 4:20

20 He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was STRONG IN FAITH, giving glory to God.

From these verses, we can conclude that faith can either be weak or strong. I am proving to you through Scripture that faith is measurable—that it can grow. We already mentioned that the Bible talks about growing faith (2 Thess. 1:3). Acts 6:5 says Stephen was full of faith. James 2:5 mentions rich faith. James 2:22 speaks of a perfect faith. First Timothy 1:5 speaks of unfeigned faith, or faith that is genuine and sincere. First Timothy 1:19 speaks of shipwrecked faith and of holding on to faith and to a good conscience. And First John 5:4 speaks of overcoming faith.

The Bible says, “In the mouth of two or three witnesses shall every word be established” (Matt. 18:16). I just gave you more than 10 witnesses! And all of these verses will prove to you that faith is measurable.

FF Bosworth We know that the measure of faith given to every believer can grow. Your faith can be strengthened by feeding it on the Word of God and by exercising it or putting it into practice.

F. F. Bosworth said, “Most Christians feed their body three hot meals a day and their spirit one cold snack a week. And they wonder why they’re so weak in faith.”

Well, physically speaking, if you just ate one cold snack a week, you would grow weak physically! But the same is true spiritually. God’s Word is faith food, and if we want our faith to grow, we must feed it more than once a week!

If you want your faith to grow, you have to start where you are. No one climbs a ladder starting on the top rung. You’ve got to start on the bottom rung and climb up if you’re going to reach the top. That’s the thing that defeats a lot of well-meaning Christians—they try to believe beyond their faith.

Remember, just because someone has fed more on God’s Word and has exercised his faith is not a sign that God gave him more faith than He gave someone else. No, the person who fed on the Word and exercised his faith had the same measure of faith to begin with as the others had. But he fed his faith and exercised it, and his faith grew strong! As a result he could believe God for more.

So keep a positive attitude about your own faith. Recognize that you have faith and that you can cause it to grow. Feed your faith and exercise it right where you are in your Christian walk. Then your faith can grow and move mountains!

God Has No Favorites

Why don't some people believe their faith in God will work? I know from experience that a lot of people have faith in my faith and in the faith of others. But they don't have confidence that their own faith in God will work. For some reason, they don't believe in themselves. The reason for their unbelief is that they don't know what the Bible teaches about who they are in Christ. They need to find out.

Some people think they're not "good enough" for their faith to work. Some feel their faith is not strong enough. Some people are so acquainted with all of their own failings and weaknesses that they're always willing to believe anything against themselves: their unworthiness, their unfitness, their weakness, their lack of faith, and so forth.

If we can get these people to let us pray and believe for them, we can get answers for them—temporarily. But Satan will rob them of the blessings God intended for them to have unless we teach them the facts of God's Word.

A Bible fact that gave me faith was this: God, my Heavenly Father, does not have any favorite children. He loves every one of us with the same love.

Sometimes natural parents have a favorite child, but God doesn't have any favorites. Get that fact down in your spirit by saying out loud, "God has no favorites."

Every person born into the family of God has the same redemption. You are not any more saved than I am, and I am not any more saved than you are.

Somehow in people's faulty thinking, they assume that another Christian has more than they do. Yes, someone else may have more light of the Word, and he or she is walking in that light, but everyone born into the family of God enjoys the same redemption.

The child of God has been redeemed from the hand of the enemy. Every one of us has. Satan was conquered for you personally. Satan was conquered for me personally. (When I say it like that, it buoys up my faith.)

The believer can say, along with the Apostle Paul, “. . . [Jesus] was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification” (Rom. 4:25). It's ours—mine and yours! It belongs to us, so I can make that personal. I can say He was delivered on account of my offenses, and He was raised for my justification.

Redemption belongs to every one of us. Furthermore, I'm not any more justified than you are, and you're not any more justified than I am. (The same Greek word translated “justified” can also be translated “made righteous.”) Jesus didn't die for my trespasses any more than He died for your trespasses.

COLOSSIANS 1:13–14

13 Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:

14 In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins.

The Christian, then, can confidently say, “He delivered us,” or to make it personal, “He delivered me.”

The individual Christian can confidently say, “He delivered me out of the power (or authority) of darkness.” The Greek word translated “power” here is translated “authority” elsewhere in The King James. So

we could say, “God delivered me out of the authority of darkness and has translated me into the Kingdom of His dear Son.”

Friend, this does not belong to just a few. This absolute redemption is the personal property of every child of God, whether he knows it or not. (If he doesn’t know it, he can’t walk in the light of it—but it still belongs to him.)

This redemption is personal. It is an absolute redemption from the dominion of the devil. Satan doesn’t have dominion over us any longer. Satan has no right to rule over us with sin, sickness, or anything else that belongs to him. Satan is not our Lord or our Master; Jesus is our Lord and our Master.

This redemption belongs to every believer. It’s my personal property and your personal property. To increase your faith, repeat out loud: “It is my redemption. It is my personal property. It belongs to me.” Favorites

Colossians 2:15 says, “And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.” This verse teaches us that Jesus put Satan to nought and triumphed over him. Another translation reads, “He stripped him.” What did Jesus strip Satan of? His authority over man.

When Jesus put Satan to nought and stripped him of his authority, Christ acted in your stead—in your place. He did it for you. Now, through Christ, you have overcome the enemy!

1 JOHN 4:4

4 Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome THEM: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.

Who is the “them” we have overcome? We find from reading the first three verses of First John chapter 4 that John was talking about the devil and all of his cohorts.

Notice he didn’t say we are going to overcome them; he said we have overcome them. How could we have overcome these demons? Because what Christ did was marked to our credit. He did it as our Substitute. (He did it in our place, and God marked it to our credit as though you and I were the ones who did it!)

Someone may ask, “If we’ve overcome them, why are we having such a problem with them?”

Because we don’t know we have overcome them, or we aren’t walking in the light of what we do know. When you know what the Bible says and walk in the light of it, you don’t need someone else to exercise his faith for you.

I can understand the problems people have in this area, however. I can relate to people. I’ve stood where they are. At one time I didn’t know this, either. I hadn’t been taught. And I was afraid of the devil.

If the devil showed up anywhere, I ducked out of the way, trying to hide. I had heard preachers tell how powerful the devil is—and about all the evil he was going to do—and I didn’t want to meet him! If he stuck his head up anywhere, I darted out of the way and hid.

Why? Wasn’t I saved? Yes, I was saved. Wasn’t I filled with the Holy Spirit? Yes, I was filled with the Holy Spirit. I just didn’t know the truth.

I’d nearly quake in my boots when the least little thing—opposition or anything—rose up. But one day many, many years ago, I found out the truth from the Word of God. When I found out the truth, instead of hoping the devil wouldn’t show up, I went out looking for him!

I was no longer afraid of the devil. Instead of my darting down a back alley when I saw him coming, now he turned and ran when he saw me coming! He said about me, “Uh-oh. He’s found out the truth, boys. He’s found out the truth. We can’t defeat or devour him anymore. He’s learned the truth.”

If you just think you’ve learned the truth, the devil will put you to the test to see if you really believe what you say you believe.

Now can you understand why John said, “You have overcome them . . .” (1 John 4:4)? You have overcome them. Christ acted in your stead. He did it for you. You have overcome them because Jesus has overcome them (all these spirits). You’re not going to overcome them; you have overcome them.

No, we’re not bragging about what you are in the flesh. (You don’t amount to much in the flesh.) We’re talking about who you are in Christ.

You see, you now have the same eternal life Jesus has. The Bible says, “He that hath the Son hath life . . .” (1 John 5:12). You have the Son, so you have the life. That means you can say, “I have taken Jesus as my Savior. I have confessed Him as my Lord. God has given me eternal life—His own nature. I am a new creature, created in Christ Jesus. I have God’s ability to perform the good works that were prepared beforehand for me to walk in” (Eph. 2:10).

You can say, “I have God’s ability, because I have God’s nature. I have dwelling in me the same great, mighty, wonderful Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead” (Rom. 8:11).

You can say, quoting First John 4:4, “Greater is He who is in me than he who is in the world.”

These are Bible facts that will build faith in you and help you grow to where you can believe God on your own and not have to depend on someone else.

And when you get to the place where you know your faith in God will work, you will become dangerous to the devil! You will make hell afraid of you, and you will make Heaven glad. Greater

Until you get to this place, even though you may be saved and filled with the Holy Spirit, the devil will have you at a disadvantage. He'll hold high carnival in your body, and he'll dominate your life.

Know the facts of God's Word—what belongs to you and who you are in Him. Friend, spiritually speaking, you are born of God. You've got God's nature. The life of God is in your spirit. You are His child. He is your Father. You can say, "He has declared me righteous. He has made me righteous. I am the righteousness of God in Christ" (2 Cor. 5:21).

Make this confession out loud: I am the righteousness of God in Christ. I know who I am! I'm a new creature in Christ Jesus. I'm a child of God. I'm an heir of God. I'm a joint-heir with Jesus Christ. I'm the righteousness of God. Hallelujah!

Faith Homework

The Word of God makes it clear that we receive from the Lord by faith and that faith brings results.

1. Every day this month, read the following “faith” verses and then think about them throughout your day.

James 1:5–7

Matthew 21:22

Mark 9:23

Mark 11:23–24

Romans 10:8–10

2. Ask God to help you understand the meaning of these verses and to grasp the reality of receiving by faith.

3. Every day, make the following confession as a way of reinforcing what you read in God’s Word:

“I am a doer of the Word, not just a hearer only. The Word of God says, ‘By Jesus’ stripes, ye were healed.’ Since I was healed, then I am healed.” The Word of God says all things are possible to him who believes. I am a believer. All things are possible for me because I believe God’s Word.”

Faith Brings Results!

But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach;

That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

—Romans 10:8–10

This passage in Romans deals specifically with salvation. But we receive salvation from God in the same way we receive other provisions from God. Every other provision was included in that salvation. Through His death, burial, and resurrection, Jesus made salvation, preservation, healing, provision, wholeness, and every good thing to us. Jesus did the work. How do we receive those provisions? With our heart we believe it, with our mouth we confess it, and then we receive it.

MATTHEW 21:21–22

21 Jesus answered and said unto them, Verily I say unto you, If ye have faith, and doubt not, ye shall not only do this which is done to the fig tree, but also if ye shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; it shall be done.

22 And all things, whatsoever ye shall ASK in prayer, BELIEVING, ye shall RECEIVE.

Notice verse 22 says: “And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.” How many things? All things. “All things” includes healing! Also, this passage in Matthew bears witness with our passage in Romans 10—believe, ask (or say), and receive.

MARK 9:23

23 Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, ALL things are possible to him that believeth.

This verse also says all things. Again, “all things” includes healing. Some people fail to receive all things from God because of what they interpret “all things” to mean. Jesus didn’t say, “All things are possible except one.” Or, “All things except a few.” But whatever people believe is what they receive.

It’s important for us to keep exercising our faith and to believe what the Bible says. As we believe the Word, our faith grows, and we can believe God for greater results. The more we believe, the more we will receive because faith brings results!

Let’s look at one more passage—my favorite.

MARK 11:23–24

23 For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.

24 Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

This passage also confirms Romans 10:8–10: When we believe in our heart and say (or pray) what we believe with our heart, we shall have whatsoever we say (or pray).

Let's discuss how to receive from God, especially in the area of healing. We've seen from Scripture that we must "believe in our heart" and "say with our mouth" what we believe with our heart. But there is something else I want to point out from this passage in Mark chapter 11, because this is where a lot of folks miss it. Notice that Mark 11:24 says: "What things soever ye desire, WHEN ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them."

Will of GodA lot of people will tell you they are believing and confessing, but they miss it in the area of when. This verse says to believe you receive when you pray. Some things may take time to be manifested in the physical realm, but they are already a spiritual fact. Anything God has provided for you is a free gift you can receive right now. You don't have to wait.

When it comes to salvation or the baptism in the Holy Ghost, you don't have to wait. You can have them right now. You can be saved right now and speak with tongues right now, because these are free gifts! Because healing is also a free gift from God, you can receive healing right now.

Some people receive gradual healings. Usually, that is because their faith takes hold gradually. But our goal should be to grow our faith so that it takes hold now. When we believe and receive, we shall have!

Suppose today was your birthday, and I told you I had bought you a watch and then held it out to you as a gift. And suppose you replied, "I believe you got me a watch. You said you did. I believe you did. I'm just waiting for it to come into manifestation. I believe it will sometime." Well, you missed it entirely. The watch is yours. I've tried

to give it to you. You just have to act on your faith that the watch belongs to you and then reach out and receive it.

God has already provided healing for you. In the mind of God, you're already healed. God remembers when He laid our sickness and disease on Jesus, and in the mind of God, that was the moment we were healed. Remember First Peter 2:24 says, "By whose stripes you were healed." It's past tense, a done deal.

I like to say it this way: Whether it's a headache, toothache, toe-ache, cancer, paralysis, or the worst thing you can think of, in the spirit realm your healing is already packaged with your name on it.

Some may ask, "Why don't I have it?" It's just waiting for you to come and claim it. When do you claim it? After you pray? A week later? Next month? When the symptoms are gone? No! The Bible says to believe you receive when you pray. Right then, when you pray, is present tense. And you shall have it!

It may not be manifested on the outside yet, but we know it's ours because we received it in our spirit. Many times I've known on the inside I had received a certain thing that hadn't shown up yet. But I kept my faith in God's Word, and it wasn't long before it showed up. Some things may take time, but when you believe you receive when you pray, and you're willing to stand your ground, believing you received, you won't wait long!

The Bible says, "When you pray, believe that you receive, and you shall have." If I'm not having, I know I must be missing it somewhere. I know God's Word isn't wrong.

For one thing, we can't believe, or have faith, beyond actual knowledge. Faith—scriptural believing—begins where the will of God is known.

I've had many people ask me to pray that they will have more faith. It's not really faith they need so much as it is knowledge of God's Word. And faith doesn't come through prayer, anyway. It comes from hearing the Word of God (Rom. 10: 17). Instead of praying for faith, we need to read the Word and pray as Paul did—that the eyes of our understanding will be opened (Eph. 1:16–17).

Mark 11:24 says, “Believe you receive when you pray, and you shall have it.” Our part is to believe that we receive healing for our body when we pray. God's part is to see to it that we have it. We don't want to mess with the “have it” part. That's not our part. God will take care of that! Our part is to believe we receive. When? Right when we pray.

We receive healing on the inside first, in the inward man, and then it shows up on the outside. Whatever we receive from God we receive with our spirit, our inward man. Even before we see it on the outside, we believe, or know on the inside, that we have it. And just as sure as you believe and know it, it will show up. God will see to it! Faith comes from hearing God's Word. We “believe it in our heart” and “confess it with our mouth”—believing we receive when we pray—and faith brings results!

Do God's Promises Cover What You Want?

Faith—Bible faith—is based on the Word of God. It comes by hearing the Word of God. Romans 10:17 says, “So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.” If you get out beyond the Word of God, you have no basis for faith—and you will get into trouble.

It seems to me people ought to have a little sense. In other words, I do not understand how some people can go around spouting off things, endeavoring to believe and calling it faith when it is merely presumption and folly.

Christians need to have enough sense to know where faith will work and where it won't. Never get out beyond the Word of God. You get into trouble when you move beyond the Word of God and have no basis for faith.

To have a foundation for your faith, be certain that the promises of God cover what you're believing for. You have a right to believe for anything God's Word promises you. But if you get out beyond that, you are out in presumption or foolishness. For instance, sometimes single people, because “you can have what you say,” will pick out someone and claim him or her as a mate.

Single people have a right—because there is scripture for it—to claim a wife or husband. But they do not necessarily have the right just to pick out a particular person and say, “I'm going to claim So-and-so.” That other person has a say in the situation! Singles have the right to believe God for a wife or husband, but they should let the Lord send them one.

A young graduate from a denominational seminary was in some of our meetings in Texas. He had been filled with the Holy Spirit and had been kicked out of his denomination. He took my wife and me out for lunch one day where he announced, “I’m getting married.” “Oh,” my wife said, “who is the lucky girl?” He proceeded to tell us about a woman who sang in the choir at the church he attended. He did not even know her name. He had never met her. He just liked the looks of her sitting up there in the choir.

He said, “I claimed her. Brother Hagin preaches you can have what you say. I’ve already said it.”

My wife asked, “And you never even have had a date with her?”

“No. I never have shaken her hand or even seen her up close.”

Well, when he got up close, she might not have looked as good as she did from a distance! Kidding aside, the woman has a say in the matter! He cannot override her will.

He has a right to claim a wife. The Bible says, “Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the Lord” (Prov. 18:22). He has a right to claim a wife—but he should let God bring him the one He wants for him.

I started preaching when I was 17. It seemed as if someone was always trying to make a match for me. One girl came and told me that God showed her she was supposed to marry me. “Well,” I said, “when He tells me, I will accept it.” God never did tell me.

Such things would be funny if they weren’t so pathetic. Lives have been ruined over things like this.

Be sure the Scriptures cover what you are believing for. Don't get out beyond God's Word.

God's Word is Light Through the years, many people have asked me to pray with them, saying, "Brother Hagin, I want you pray with me about such-and-such."

I purposely ask them, "What scriptures are you standing on?"

Eight out of ten times—and I kept a record of it for years—they looked at me with a blank expression and said, "Well, none in particular."

I told them, "That's what you'll get then—nothing in particular. You have no foundation for faith. Faith is based on what God said. Faith in God is faith in God's Word."

Many times we use terms loosely. Recognize that when talking about faith, we're talking about faith in God—and faith in God is faith in His Word. "Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (Rom. 10:17). You're not going to have faith for something if you don't hear the Word of God on it.

So find scriptures that cover your case. Find scriptures that promise you the things you are praying for. Then you have a solid foundation for faith.

If something arises—even though I know the scriptures which apply and can quote many of them from memory—I don't pray about the matter immediately. I go to the Word. I read again the same scriptures I could quote. I go over them again and again sometimes for a day or two. (If an emergency arises, that is a different thing. In doing that, I am building the Word of God into my spirit. That way, when I get ready to act in faith, there is no doubt. I am solid.

I do not want to attract attention to myself—I tell this to glorify God and His Word—but not one single time in more than 50 years have I had a prayer go unanswered. (Now you understand I am talking about things concerning myself individually. When you are praying about someone else, that person’s will enters in.) As far as for me individually, I never prayed about anything without receiving the answer.

Sometimes it would take a little time. I just stayed in the Word every moment I could. I would meditate for hours on the scriptures that covered what I was believing for. Then I believed only what the Word said. I had a sure foundation for faith.

Sometimes I had to make adjustments before the answer could manifest. I made them in a hurry. For instance, in 1949, I left the last church I pastored and went out into a field ministry at the Lord’s direction. At the end of my first year of traveling, I spent three days fasting and praying. I reminded the Lord of something He said in the Old Testament: “If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land” (Isa. 1:19).

(That Scripture belongs to us, too. We can prove from the New Testament that we are heir to it. It means that you will prosper and have a good life. It does not mean you will never have any tests—because the devil will put pressure on you.)

I told the Lord, “Lord, my children are not even eating right. I’ve worn out my car; now I’m out here on the field on foot. I’m sure not eating the good of the land—yet You promised that I would. Something is wrong somewhere.” (I knew the trouble was with me. The problem is never with God.)

The third day of my fast, just as plainly as somebody speaking, the Lord said, “That text you keep quoting to Me says, ‘If you be willing

and obedient.’ You were obedient, but you weren’t willing. You don’t qualify. That’s the reason it’s not working for you.”

I kept trying to magnify the obedience part—He got on the willing part! Just as a child can obey his parents and not be willing, so you can actually obey the Lord and not be willing and therefore still miss it. I got willing in 10 seconds! Don’t tell me it takes a long time to get willing. It didn’t take me 10 seconds to make a little adjustment right down on the inside.

Then I said, “Lord, I’m ready now. You already told me I was obedient. Now I’m willing. I know it. You know it. And the devil knows it. So I’m ready now to start eating the good of the land.”

He said, “Yes, you are. Now I will tell you what to do.”

He told me, and I’ve been “eating the good” ever since!

The psalmist of old said, “The entrance of thy words giveth light . . .” (Ps. 119:130). The entrance of God’s Word gives light.

When there is light in a room, it is no problem at all to walk around. As long as the light is there, you can walk fine. But with all the lights out on a dark night, you may stumble and fall over objects in that room.

The entrance of God’s Word gives light. The reason many fall and fail is because they have left the light of the Word of God. They are walking in presumption or folly.

What does God’s Word say?

Too many answer, “Well, I don’t know.”

Find out what it says. Find the scriptures that promise you the things you are praying for. You’re always on safe ground when you’re

standing on the Scriptures. When you get away from God's Word, you are in a gray area.

Some people want to step over into the dark, and whether or not the Word of God promises it, they say, "I'm just going to believe."

Believing God is believing His Word. Oh, how necessary it is to know the Word of God. Thank God, He has given us His Word. We need not be in the dark. The entrance of God's Word gives light.

What does it mean to walk in the light? It means to walk in the Word! Walking in the Word is walking in the light. To walk away from the Word means to walk into darkness.

Make these confessions aloud today:

"I am a believer.

I am not a doubter.

I do have faith.

My faith works.

My faith is in God the Father.

My faith is in the Lord Jesus Christ.

My faith is in the Holy Bible, the Word of God.

God's Word is true.

I believe the Word of God.

Therefore, I believe God.

God's Word works!"

How Faith Comes

When we understand how faith comes, acting on our faith and receiving from God becomes simple. God made faith easy to understand—the answers are all in the Word!

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. —Hebrews 11:6

Notice particularly the first part of that verse, “But without faith it is impossible to please him. . . .”

If God demands that we have faith when it is impossible for us to have faith, then we have a right to challenge His justice. But if He places within our hands the means whereby faith can be produced, then the responsibility rests with us as to whether or not we have faith.

God has told us that without faith it is impossible to please Him, but He has also told us how to obtain faith. He has told us how faith comes.

ROMANS 10:17

17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

If we don't have faith, it is not God's fault. To blame God for our lack of faith is nothing but ignorance. God has provided the way whereby everyone can have faith.

The Apostle Paul said that we are saved by faith (Eph. 2:8). But how do you get the faith to be saved? Faith for salvation “. . .cometh by

hearing, and hearing by the word of God.” Let’s read more from this passage in Romans.

ROMANS 10:8–10,13–14,17

8 But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach;

9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation . . .

13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

14 How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? . . .

17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

We see here that faith for salvation comes by hearing the Word of God. Now relate that with Acts 11:13 and 14, which says, “And he shewed us how he [Cornelius] had seen an angel in his house, which stood and said unto him, Send men to Joppa, and call for Simon, whose surname is Peter; **WHO SHALL TELL THEE WORDS**, whereby thou and all thy house shall be saved.”

Cornelius was a good man, but he was not saved. Jesus said, “. . . Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature . . .” (Mark 16:15). As Cornelius had not as yet heard this glorious Gospel, he was not saved.

God told Cornelius to send for Peter in order to learn the plan of salvation. The angel could not preach to Cornelius. (Angels cannot preach—God sent men to preach.) But the angel could tell Cornelius

where to go to get someone “. . .who shall tell thee words, whereby thou and all thy house shall be saved.”

How does faith for healing come? In the same way faith for salvation comes—by hearing and believing God’s Word.

ACTS 14:7–10

7 And there they [Paul and Barnabas] preached the gospel.

8 And there sat a certain man at Lystra, impotent in his feet, being a cripple from his mother’s womb, who never had walked:

9 The same heard Paul speak: who stedfastly beholding him, and perceiving that he had faith to be healed,

10 Said with a loud voice, Stand upright on thy feet. And he leaped and walked.

A casual reader of the Word might say, “Isn’t it wonderful how Paul healed that man!” But Paul did not heal the man. The man was not healed because Paul was an apostle, nor was he healed by Paul’s faith. The man himself had faith.

Paul did three things:

1. He preached the Gospel (v. 7).
2. He perceived that the man had faith to be healed (v. 9).
3. He told the man to stand up and walk (v. 10).

The man did three things:

1. He heard Paul preach (v. 9).
2. He had faith to be healed (v. 9).
3. He leaped and walked (v. 10).

This man was not healed by some power Paul possessed. The man himself had faith to be healed. And how did he get the faith to be healed? He got it from what he heard. He heard Paul speak. And what did Paul speak? He preached the Gospel (v. 7).

This crippled man at Lystra had faith to be healed. In Mark 5:34, Jesus said to the woman who had just been healed of the issue of blood, “. . . Daughter, thy FAITH hath made thee whole. . .” Faith has not been done away with. It still comes by hearing — and hearing by the Word of God!

Will of God Jesus did not say that it was His power that made the woman whole; He said that her faith did it. How did the man at Lystra get faith to be healed? From what he heard, and what he heard was the Word of God.

Is there something about the Gospel that would cause a life-long cripple to be healed? Decidedly, yes!

Paul preached a Gospel of salvation and of healing, stating, “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek” (Rom. 1:16).

In his notes referring to this verse, Rev. C. I. Scofield wrote, “The Hebrew and Greek words for salvation imply the ideas of deliverance, safety, preservation, healing, and soundness.” Therefore, Paul was saying, “I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ. It is the power of God unto deliverance, safety, preservation, healing, and soundness.” Paul preached the full Gospel, not just a part of it.

I referred earlier to the woman who had an issue of blood for twelve years. The Word of God tells us about her in Mark chapter 5 as well as in Luke chapter 8. We are told that she had spent all of her living and had gone to many physicians, but “was nothing bettered, but rather grew worse” (Mark 5:26).

Mark 5:27 and 28 say, “When she had HEARD of Jesus, came in the press behind, and touched his garment. For she said, If I may touch but his clothes, I shall be whole.” And in verse 34 we read, “And he

said unto her, Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace, and be whole of thy plague.”

Where did this woman get faith to receive healing? “When she had heard . . .” (v. 27).

After preaching several weeks in a Full Gospel church in Dallas during the early 1950s, I stayed on three months while the pastor took a leave of absence. In addition to preaching at the regular church services, we also had a daily radio program.

One weekend we had some special missionary services. On Friday night, after the services had been dismissed, one of the ushers told me that a man and a woman from Fort Worth wanted to see me. The wife was sick and wanted healing. Her husband related that as he drove to work one morning, he had heard our radio program. He had heard me make the statement that healing was for everybody, and he had gone home that night and told his wife about it. All that week they had tuned into the broadcast.

This woman had had two serious operations and was facing the third. “We have been praying,” the husband said, “that if it is God’s will for her to be healed, He will give us the faith to believe that she will be healed.” And they had come to ask me to pray for her.

I began by telling them it is unscriptural to pray, “If it be Thy will” concerning anything which God’s Word has already promised us. When you put an “if” in your prayer, you are praying in doubt.

Some people think they are being humble when, really, they are being ignorant. You will get no answer if you put “ifs” in your prayers when God’s Word has already made His will plain.

It is only when you are praying a prayer of consecration that you put an “if” in the prayer. This is because, in a prayer of consecration, you

are not certain what the Lord's will is. But concerning the prayer of faith, "if" is the badge of doubt, and it should not be in your prayers when you are praying to change a particular situation in your life, such as sickness or disease.

I asked the husband, "If the New Testament said that Jesus took your wife's infirmities and bare her sicknesses, wouldn't it be His will for her to have her healing?"

He acknowledged that it would. So we turned in the Word to Matthew 8:17, which says, "That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses."

"It is God's will for her to be healed!" he exclaimed. His wife said that she saw it too.

We then turned to First Peter 2:24 and read, "Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: **BY WHOSE STRIPES YE WERE HEALED**" (1 Peter 2:24).

And in Isaiah 53:4 and 5 we read together, "Surely he hath borne our **GRIEFS**, and carried our **SORROWS**;: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and **WITH HIS STRIPES WE ARE HEALED**." The margin of the King James Version reads, "Surely he hath borne our sicknesses and carried our diseases."

So the couple said, "We know it is His will. All we need now is faith."

I asked them if they were saved, and they replied that they were. I asked them to describe how they had gotten saved. They stated that they

had gone down to the front of the church when an invitation was given and had knelt and prayed a sinner's prayer.

“When you went down to the front,” I asked, “did you ask the Lord to give you faith to be saved?” Their answer was no.

The husband said that the preacher had preached that they could be saved. He had read the Word to the people. They had heard the Word, and faith came to them for salvation.

I told them that faith for healing came the same way. They had just heard the Word read to them, and they believed what it said concerning healing. They had faith to be healed!

“We're going to have to throw our first prayer away because it wasn't any good,” the husband declared. I agreed with him. As soon as light comes from God's Word, faith is there!

His wife agreed, too, saying, “I see that all I have to do now is to accept Jesus as my Healer.”

I laid my hand on her head and prayed. Then I asked her if she was healed.

She confessed, “I surely am, and I know I am because God's Word says I am.”

FaithDuring the following Sunday night service, the vestibule doors swung open and there stood this woman's husband. After asking if he could say a word, he began to tell what had happened.

He said that when they arrived home that Friday night, his wife pulled off her brace, threw it into the closet and said, “Thank God, I am healed!” The next day, Saturday, when he came home, he found his

wife stooped over the sink, washing her hair—something she had been unable to do.

This Sunday night, he brought his mother to be prayed for. She was in a wheelchair with paralysis. After prayer, she stood up and walked out!

When hands were laid on the young couple, they received the baptism in the Holy Spirit and began to speak in tongues. Years later, I talked with them and she was still healed.

How did she get faith? From hearing and believing God's Word!