

## Discipleship Tip

"What lives grows" - Ps Phil Pringle.

**2 Cor 3:6.** In the Bible, we see that when the Spirit came upon people, they were equipped. We need the Holy Spirit power on us to transform people's lives.

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Connect Group Notes

7 Mar2010

Ps Phil Pringle

Spirit of Faith

**Psalm 27:13-14 (NKJV). "I would have lost heart, unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living. Wait on the Lord; be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart; wait I say on the Lord."**

Spend time in the presence of the Lord. Faith is like a battery, it tends to get used up, leaving us feeling like we are at the end of our faith. You and I will find that the faith you have is generally equal to your day. That is why there are times of massive revival. Revival fires us up again, we go to church to get filled up. The busyness of life tries to steal time with God from us. We need to make time for the Sabbath, connect group, a conference.

Faith is not just a mental concept but a feeling of confidence in life, an attitude in you that everything is alright despite the surrounding circumstances. Do not let these overwhelm you but be overwhelmed by faith.

### **1. Faith speaks – it is never silent.** Faith speaks to:

- Circumstances – what are you saying about them – positive or negative words? Jesus spoke to a storm, a tree, the wind, sea, deaf ears, dead people. He talks to His world.
- Self – self talk is very important. Speak into your soul, have faith in God.
- Speak to God – don't pray about your problems. Tell him, "God, fulfil your word in our life." Speak positively rather than negatively.

### **2. Faith overcomes discouragement (2 Cor 4:16 NKJV).**

- The ability to rule in life comes from the ability to travel through pain successfully. Problems are a part of living, they are not unusual. The problems you face today are preparing you for tomorrow.
- Trying things for first time often ends in disaster. God is the God of second chances (and more).
- Speak to God – don't pray about your problems. Tell him, "God, fulfil your word in our life." Speak positively rather than negatively.

### **3. Faith fixes vision on the vision (2 Cor 4:18 NKJV).**

- Fix your vision on the vision, not on the things that are pushing you backwards.
- What are your dreams? Get your eye on the dream not the problems.
- Continue to fix your eye on the vision even if others think it is impossible.

### **4. Faith doesn't fixate on the problem (Mat 14:29-31 NKJV).**

- Jesus was walking on the water and said "come" to the disciples in the boat. Of the 12, only 1 came – Peter. All of them had the promise.
- Peter had great faith and walked on the water but fear came in and stopped him. You can't have fear and faith in the same heart.
- Fear or faith comes from where your eyes are – if eyes on Christ, faith will be there.
- Jesus wants believers to grow up in faith and not be rescued in life. He wants us to walk in power and victory.

## **5. Faith has a different perspective to everyone else (Acts 28:1-6 NKJV).**

- Every problem that comes into your life is an opportunity, no matter what it looks like.
- The problem is never the problem. Our attitude to the problem is where the problem or the answer to the problem is.
- Smile at the trial and find your way to the other side.
- Shake off whatever is trying to poison your mind, your attitude.
- Be aware that the enemy will come with negativity.

Paul had endured such trial before he landed on the island of Malta and the trial continued. He could have said I'm done with this – my faith has run out but he remained in the 'Spirit of Faith'. You will see the goodness of God in the land of the living if you don't lose heart.

### **TALK ABOUT**

- Is there a circumstance that you have been thinking, speaking negatively about?
- What are your dreams or things that you have tried, failed and given up on that need an impartation of the spirit of faith?
- Identify the element of faith that needs to most be applied to your circumstances.

**REPORTING** <http://myc3church.net/cgi-bin/exform.pl>

### **Connect Leader Training**

Please remember that Connect Leader Training is coming up at the Oxford Falls Campus on Tuesday at 7.30pm, both held in the Glasshouse and only 2 hours long. And don't forget, its free of charge! Please send your assistant leaders and any up and coming leaders to the training for them to be equipped to run a connect group. Its also a great refresher for all connect group leaders.

### **C3 College Night School**

It is not too late to join Night School - Monday Nights at 7pm at all three Campuses. If you have done part of Night School, enjoyed it and want to pick it up training again – you are more than welcome! Contact C3 College on 9972 8688 or email [Ericka.carlino@c3church.net](mailto:Ericka.carlino@c3church.net) for more details.