



by
Jerry
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how to
INCREASE
YOUR FAITH

Years ago when I worked for Brother Copeland, we had gone to Alabama to hold a meeting. Every morning of the meeting, he and I met at 5:30 to pray about the needs of KCM's television ministry. After about three days, he told me, "I received the wisdom of God I needed."

"You did?" I asked. >>

“Yes, I know how we’re going to pay for this television ministry. God just told me. I’m going to give my airplane away.”

At the time, an airplane cost at least \$30,000. I’d never heard of anyone giving away \$30,000 before.

“And you know what else I’m going to do?” Brother Copeland continued. “I’m going to get it in tiptop shape before I do.”

“How much will that cost?” I asked.

“About \$8,000.”

“You’re going to add another \$8,000 to what is already worth \$30,000 and then give it away?” I was shocked. At the time, I was believing God for \$38. I couldn’t imagine sowing \$38 *thousand!*

But Brother Copeland followed the voice of the Holy Spirit and gave the plane away. About 11 days later, God brought a bigger airplane into the ministry—completely paid for—as well as the cash to pay for the television ministry.

I was so impressed that I started thinking, *What can I give away?*

But the truth is, I faced two problems. First, the Holy Spirit hadn’t led me to do what Brother Copeland did. Second, my faith wasn’t at a level to believe for an airplane. If I had tried to follow Brother Copeland’s example, I would have failed. I needed to increase my faith first.

Understand Your Measure

The Bible is clear: Every Christian in the Body of Christ has been given the same amount of faith. Romans 12:3 puts it this way, “...according as God hath

dealt to every man the measure of faith.” In the Greek, the word *measure* is the word *metron*, which means “a determined extent.”

Let me illustrate that definition.

Imagine that I have a large pie that I want to share with every person reading this article. So no one misses out, I would give each person a “measure” of the pie. No one person would receive the whole thing. Instead, I would count how many people we needed pie for, then I would calculate how much of the pie each person would receive so that the portions would be equal.

It’s the same with faith.

God gives every believer the same measure of faith. The question then becomes, *What are you going to do with your measure?*

Strength Fluctuates

You, right now, have the same measure of faith given to me, and Brother Copeland, and every other believer. But the *strength* of your measure of faith can fluctuate. Now, of course, God wants every Christian’s faith to grow, but that growth depends on *you*. If you want your faith to increase in strength, then you must follow Romans 10:17, which says, “Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.” You must feed your faith every day with the Word.

People often try to live on the strength of the faith that got them through the past month, but your faith needs to be fed daily. You need to look at your faith like a bank account and your heart as a treasury. When you go to the Word, faith cometh, making

deposits into your heart. Every time you use your faith you’re making a withdrawal. If you’re not careful, you can get to the point that you are making so many withdrawals that you are facing a deficit. You’ve got more demands on your faith than you’ve got Word in your heart.

Instead, you need to increase the strength of your faith by depositing the Word into your heart daily.

If you need to believe God for your health, deposit the Word.

If you need to believe God for your finances, deposit the Word.

If you need to believe God for your marriage, deposit the Word.

Never let a deficit exist in your faith bank account.

Increasing Your Faith

In 2 Corinthians 10:15 the Apostle Paul said, “Not boasting of things without our measure, that is, of other men’s labours; but having hope, when your faith is increased, that we shall be enlarged by you according to our rule abundantly.”

While Romans 12 said, “God hath dealt to every man *the* measure of faith,” this scripture, which was written to the Christians at Corinth, says, “When your faith is increased....” Clearly, the measure that God dealt to you can be developed and strengthened.

If you have *the* measure of faith residing in you (and you do)... and if you discover that “faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word” (which you have)... and if you apply that law (which you can)—then while you’re meditating on God’s Word, God is imparting the faith in that Word into your heart. You already had a measure of faith, but now it’s *growing stronger*. >>

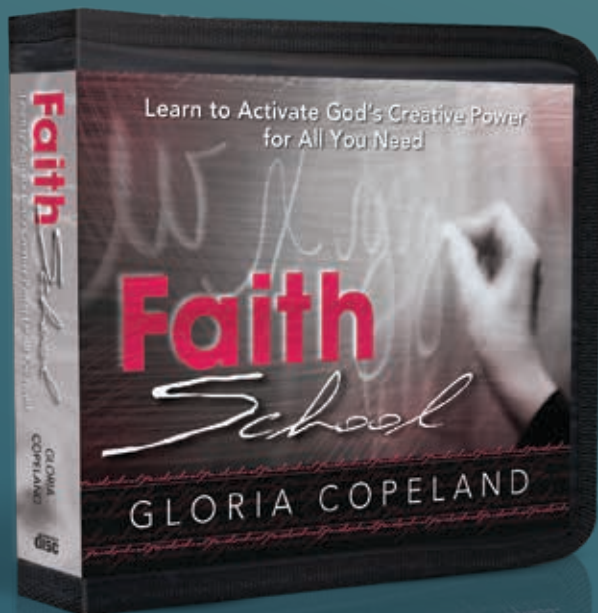


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What happens to your original measure? *It matures.* Whether it's reading the Word on your own, joining in a corporate Bible study or immersing yourself in a Spirit-filled, faith-charged atmosphere like the Southwest Believers' Convention, God is strengthening your faith.

Of course, if your faith can increase, it can also decrease. Referring to people who hear God's Word, Jesus said, "For whosoever hath, to him shall be given, and he shall have more abundance: but whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken away even that he hath" (Matthew 13:12).

In other words, if you choose to hear God's Word, mature faith will come to you. If you choose not to hear God's Word, even the measure you were dealt originally will diminish—not in measure, but in strength.

And if your faith isn't developing, if you're not listening to the Word, then you'll be susceptible to the words of the enemy—words which breed fear. And when fear is present, faith can't flourish.

The Word Is the Answer

A lot of people have very little spiritual strength because they won't get into the Word enough. The measure of faith that they've tried living on since they got filled with the Holy Ghost 20 years ago hasn't grown. So how do you increase your faith? We've already seen it plainly: The Word is the answer, folks. And it's not just a one-time fix. The Word says, "The just shall live by faith" (Romans 1:17; Galatians 3:11; Hebrews 10:38). That's an ongoing process. There's not a day goes by that we shouldn't bolster our faith.

Right now, wherever you're reading this, take a moment to worship the Lord. Thank Him for the measure of faith He has given to you as a born-again believer, and then say, "Father, I'm going to take my measure and let it increase by the Word. I thank You that my measure is going to grow." Then take a stand and commit to do it. Begin studying the Word and applying it to your life so that your measure of faith can mature...and you can be ready for anything that comes your way! 🙌

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