



RESURRECTION CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

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EVANGELIZING THE HEART OF THE BELIEVER

Letters of Faith

March 2013

I do believe; help me in my unbelief!

Mark 9:24

Dearly Beloved,

Recently I often find myself, deep in my heart, wanting to cry out to God this desperate cry: **“I do believe; help me in my unbelief!”** But each time I feel like this, or even start to think this way, the Holy Spirit firmly repeats God’s admonition to me that this is not acceptable to Him or to my Lord Jesus now that I am one of His kids. He clearly stated to me some time ago that Jesus’ manifestation of God’s love for His people and His faithful response to the wobbly-faith of this father by healing and delivering his epileptic son was acceptable then because that was before His cross, grave, resurrection, and ascension!

Our Father God also made it very clear to us that such week-kneed, iffy/maybe kind of faith is not acceptable from us who have received His Son as our Lord and Savior and His Spirit as our Almighty Empowerer. God expects us to stand against the unbelief that tries to paralyze our faith, and to believe...even the apparently unbelievable...when He and/or His Word say to!

Most of us have grown in our faith enough to progress past the point of wondering, like the father in this story, *if Jesus can do* what we need or want from Him. Remember, the father cried out to Jesus: **“...if You can do anything, take pity on us and help us!”** (Mark 9:22) Our trouble *now* with believing seems to be not so much *if You can do*, but *if You will do!*

Jesus answers this question for us simply by saying to us: **“...All things are possible to him who believes.”** (Mark 9:23) So we are faced with whether we *really do believe* that Jesus wants to heal and deliver, and wants His disciples to heal and deliver, and has sent the Holy Spirit to work in us, His disciples, for His good pleasure to heal and deliver.

But we are not just stumbling in our attempts to truly believe in matters of healing and deliverance. Every day, as we hear the news of the world getting more and more grim and anti-Christian, we are challenged to believe fundamental Scriptures about who Jesus is and what He is doing like Isaiah 9:7: **“There will be no end to the increase of His government or of peace, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness from then on and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will accomplish this.”**

This is not an easy Word to really believe in if we just look at current events!

We have two sons who came into the Kingdom with us as we all gave our hearts to the Lordship of Jesus as a family. But pressures and temptations of the world almost immediately challenged them both to be more guarded of their newfound faith in order to not look so different from their classmates. As a result, we grew concerned that neither of the boys seemed to be growing into the fullness of faith about who Jesus really is, nor fully entering the arena of

the Holy Spirit we were moving into.

We were greatly encouraged to really believe that God Himself was going to set them free from their captivity to societal norms and release them into the fullness of their callings when He led us to Isaiah 49:25: **“Surely, thus says the Lord, ‘Even the captives of the mighty man will be taken away, and the prey of the tyrant will be rescued; for I will contend with the one who contends with you, and I will save your sons.’”**

Although there has not yet been a full manifestation of this Word in our sons, we can see God’s hand at work in both of their lives, and truly believe that His contending for them will bring forth a full salvation to them both.

And yet there are still areas of our lives where the enemy tries to puncture our hopes and beliefs. For example, when I (Paul) receive a prophetic word that says the best of my life and ministry is yet to come, I find myself wincing deep down inside. I really want to deny it, but it is there, and I know it is especially unacceptable to my Lord because of an extraordinary experience He gave us some years ago.

We were teaching and ministering in a large house church in the South of England, and the Holy Spirit had manifested His presence with some amazing physical blessings. Suddenly, a very elderly gentleman (well, he was elderly to us then, although he was younger than we are now) threw up his hands at full arms length and started praising God in a deep and majestic unknown tongue. We were all arrested in our prayers just by listening to this awesome outburst of worship and praise and thanksgiving.

Then we were riveted by the testimony that proceeded to pour forth from him. He said he had been drawn to this resort area of England to spend three days alone with God in order to plead “one final time” for the total infilling of the Holy Spirit and the gift of tongues that he had been asking for over the past 40 years. He had planned to get on a train earlier in the evening to return to his home in the London area, but the Holy Spirit “insisted” that he stay to attend our meeting. He said that when we started praising God for the awesome things He was doing in our midst, he cried out once more for the fullness of the Holy Spirit, and he was instantly overwhelmed by His power and His love for him, and he just erupted in the tongues he had sought for so long.

He spoke to us as the prophets of old must have spoken to God’s people. It was as though we were in the presence of Elijah and Isaiah at the same time. He declared that God had spoken to him that his best years were ahead of him, and now he knew it was true because now he was so overflowing with God’s Holy Spirit that he could talk with Him directly, spirit to Spirit.

So wouldn’t you think that I would have no hesitation in hearing this same word to me? And yet those sneaky thoughts of unbelief still try to get a toehold in my heart.

That’s why we want to so boldly proclaim to you all what we constantly declare to each other: don’t give unbelief any room in your heart...just believe!

Believe like the Apostle Paul declared Abraham did in Romans 4:18, 20-21: **“In hope against hope he believed, so that he might become a father of many nations according to that which had been spoken...[to him, and]...with respect to the promise of God, he did not waver in unbelief but grew strong in faith, giving glory to God, and being fully assured that what God had promised, He was able also to perform.”** (emphasis added)

In hope against hope Abraham believed the promises of God. His believing strengthened His faith, calmed the storms of unbelief attempting to swamp him, and as he proclaimed the Glory of

God he received the Blessed Assurance that God will do every thing God says He will do!

Beloved, in the face of current events, increasing social pressures, and political pontifications to the contrary, you are challenged whether or not you *really believe* such Words as: **“For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.”** (Hab. 2:14), or simply: *God is good ALL the time.*

Your anointed YES will categorize you either as *crazy* (by the world), or as a *believing believer* (by your Lord and your God).

We pray that these words of encouragement will strengthen you to stand firm in the strength of His might and declare without any doubt-covering qualifications (even ones hidden in your heart), that you really do believe what our Almighty God has declared to you is true and will come to pass...that **“...The zeal of the Lord of hosts will accomplish this.”**(Isaiah 9:7)

Huge, believing-we're-believing hugs,



Paul & Gretel

Ministry Notes:

We have received some beautiful comments about *Contagious Godliness!* We especially appreciate this one: “Your book is amazing and enlightening and will be a great blessing to all who read and study it. All your years of ministry, challenges, and joys are poured out in its pages, and most especially the love and grace of the Lord!” (A reader from Texas)

We would love to have you read it, give us your feedback, and give a copy of it to a friend! Remember, just \$19.95 postage paid through March (in USA only, mail checks to address above).

**SPECIAL ADVANCED INVITATION to JOIN
The GATHERING of RAIN MAKERS
— APRIL 19-21, 2013 —**

Friday –

7pm at 2838 Market St., St. Louis, MO

Saturday –

9:30am–12:30pm & 6:00pm at Gateway House of Prayer, 4646 Lindbergh Blvd., St. Louis, MO

Sunday –

10:30am at Higher Ground Intl. Church, 12521, Marine Ave., Maryland Heights, MO

Contact: <http://www.highergroundstl.org/>