

## **The Five Elements of Faith, Part 3: Acting on the Word**

by Bishop Keith Butler | Bible Study Notes | Ministered Sun. 06/12/22

### **Opening Summary**

There are five elements that cause faith to work. They are hearing, receiving, believing, speaking and acting on what God says. Today we will discuss acting on what you believe. You will see that God moves when you act on what He says.

- I. Jas. 1:21-22: A “doer” is a *performer*. Be a performer of the Word (Rom. 1:16).
  - A. Don't deceive yourself.
  - B. Samson thought everything was alright and it was not.
  - C. James 1:23-25: Consistently doing the word you will know what to do next.
  - D. The man who does this will be blessed (Mark 4:14-20).
  
- II. 2 Chr. 19:1-2: Jehoshaphat helped the ungodly and would have lost his life, but the Lord helped him (2 Chr. 18).
  - A. 2 Chr. 19:3: Sometimes we don't wake up until we're hit hard.
  - B. 2 Chr. 19:4: Jehoshaphat turned and brought Israel back to God.
  - C. 2 Chr. 19:5: Jehoshaphat set judges in the land.
    1. Isa. 1:26: God will restore Israel through the judges. Pray for them.
    2. Kings and presidents come and go. Judges are around a lot longer.
    3. 2 Chron 19:6-11: Judgment comes from the Lord; watch what you say about judges.
    4. He's telling both the judges and the people to stand up and do what is right.
  
- III. 2 Chr. 20:1-3: They came against Jehoshaphat because he decided to go with God.
  - A. He understood his help comes from the Lord (Psa. 121:1-2).
  - B. 2 Chr. 20:6-7: He's reminding himself of his covenant with God.
  - C. 2 Chr. 20:8-9: His actions matched his words.
  - D. 2 Chr. 20:12-14: When you seek God, He will answer you.
  - E. 2 Chr. 20:15: Don't allow satan to attack your mind and emotions (1 Pet. 5:7, Jas. 4:7).
  - F. 2 Chr. 20:15: Don't put your nose in things that are not your business.
  - G. 2 Chr. 20:16: Go to the cliff of Ziz. It was one thing to be told where the enemy was, but another thing to go down against them.
    1. If they believe what God said, their feet will follow. Or, they're self-deceived.
    2. Sometimes you have to raise your praise to the level of the fight.
    3. We had our first miracle in the beginning of this ministry. We were about to purchase a building, but we were \$30,000 short on the day of the closing. I began to shout and praise God, trying to keep my head from going tilt. Then a man walked into our little storefront building and wrote a \$30,000 check. That was the only way I had to act. Notice, nothing happened until I acted.
    4. 2 Chr. 20:18: They acted on the Word.
    5. 2 Chr. 20:22: When they began, the Lord ambushed the enemy and defeated them.

IV. Do your actions match your words?

- A. You sometimes wait on God to move, when He's waiting on you to act on what He said.
- B. Mat 14:24-27: Jesus told them to be of good cheer. Don't let yourself be down.
- C. Peter could've changed his mind. But he went out of the ship and walked on the water.
- D. The only one who had the miracle was the one who acted on Jesus' word.

V. Mark 2:1-5: Jesus saw their faith.

- A. If the Lord is looking at you and your situation right now, would He "see your faith?"
- B. Does He see you doing what you say?
- C. Mark 2:11-12: The Lord wasn't upset about the roof. He was glad there was someone who believed Him.

VI. Jas. 2:17,18-26: *Works* (Gk.: *ergon*) means *toil, deed, labor*.

- A. If you have no fear, you're willing to go forward.
- B. Real faith must have element #5: acting on the Word.
- C. Jas. 2:18-20: Hearing, receiving, believing, and speaking without actions are dead and empty. You must do what He said.
- D. Gen. 22:2-18: Abraham and Isaac acted on the Word.
  - 1. Jas. 2:21: Abraham was willing to follow God and offer his son as a burnt offering.
  - 2. Isaac was a believer also (Gen. 22:7-8).
  - 3. Faith is not complete until you follow through with what God said.
- E. The Word gives you direction, timing, specifics. You must act.
- F. We must act on the Word.
  - 1. When God told me to leave home to go in ministry, I had to act.
  - 2. Jas. 2:22-26: It was time to either put up or shut up.
  - 3. Luke 17:11-14: As the lepers acted on Jesus Word, they were healed.
- G. Act 10:1-7: Cornelius received the Word of the Lord and acted.
  - 1. Acts 27:10: Paul was in a place where others were in charge, and he had to follow.
  - 2. Acts 27:20-21: Because Paul was there, there was no life lost.
  - 3. Acts 27:22-26: Cheer up. Don't let the devil beat you down (Neh. 8:10)!
  - 4. Acts 27:33-35: Paul acted. He couldn't control them, but he could control himself.
  - 5. Acts 28:1-3: Shake it off. If you're badly attacked, shake it off.
  - 6. The barbarians were saved and they blessed Paul.

VII. Gen 14:21-24: As a result of the pandemic, I would not take Caesar's money.

- A. We now have hindsight of the pandemic.
- B. To a pastor, when the world shuts down, you don't know if people will give, since their jobs have been lost. The government offered money to take care of the bills. I had to decide that I would go with the Bible. I would not receive Caesar's money.
- C. Gen. 14:18-22: Sodom is the place from which Abraham rescued Lot (Gen. 19:4-11).
- D. Gen. 14:22-23: I took this attitude: I'll not take even a shoelace from the government.
- E. Our government promoted homosexuality, abortion, and all matter of immorality.
- F. We acted on the Word. Instead of taking government money, we gave money. We had more than enough.

VIII. Esther 4:14: If not you, deliverance will come from another place.

- A. Mordecai would not bow to Haman. It enraged Haman.
- B. Est. 4:11-12: Esther had to make a choice.
- C. Est. 4:13-14: Mordecai told Esther, if she wouldn't speak up, deliverance will come to the Jews from another place.
- D. Your help comes from the Lord.
- E. You are never boxed in. God always has a way to deliver you (Psa. 34:19; 121:1-2).

### **Closing Summary**

As you've seen, miracles happen when you act on the Word of the Lord. You can hear, receive, believe and talk about what God says, but He moves on your behalf when you act. Having studied this lesson, you can act on the Word knowing your help always comes from the Lord.