

Putting Faith into Action

Chapter 8

God's Secret

As we said the bible is full of His words. There are many promises in the bible. Some of these words, we can take as ours because they are for everyone, and other words we cannot take because they are for specific people and specific situations, and we must pray to find out if they are for us, so we pray for it and wait on the Lord to give it. Here are a few that belong to everyone.

MT 6:25 "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? [26] Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? [27] Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?

Is this not talking about our daily life, our food, clothing, housing, and life support, but He continues. Here He is showing how worry is anti-faith. If you trust God, you would trust Him for all things, and in doing so you do not need to worry. If you trust someone to do what you ask, you do not worry about them doing it. If you do, then you really do not trust them, hence you do not have faith in them, and therefore, your worry is anti-faith. If you worry about what you prayed, then you are not praying out of faith, and so it is acting as an anti-faith destroying your prayer.

MT 6:28 "And why do you worry about clothes? See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. [29] Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. [30] If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will He not much more cloth you, O you of little faith? [31] So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' [32] For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. [33] **But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.** [34] Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."

Here is the secret.

MT 6:33 "But seek first His Kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

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So we seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and everything will be ours.

He is saying that our daily life is seeking first His kingdom and His righteousness. Then after we do that He will ensure that we will get all things. All things, clothes food, housing, money, anything we need to live; even kids college money, vacation money, and the honeymoon trip money, everything we should need.

Understanding God's Secret

As long as you are allowing yourself to always be lead by the Holy Spirit, to live by the Holy Spirit and to always live with the Holy Spirit you will succeed, for the Holy Spirit will always seek first the Kingdom of God, and the Holy Spirit will always lead you into righteousness.

GAL 5:1 "It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. **Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.**" (The slavery of worry—for example.)

GAL 5:2 "Mark my words! I, Paul, tell you that if you let yourselves be circumcised, Christ will be of no value to you at all. [3] Again I declare to every man who lets himself be circumcised that he is obligated to obey the whole law. [4] You who are trying to be justified by law have been alienated from Christ; you have fallen away from grace. [5] But by faith we eagerly await through the Spirit the righteousness for which we hope. [6] **For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any value. The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.**"

Here the Jews were forcing their religious custom of circumcision onto the Gentiles who accept Jesus as their savior, for it is their religion for salvation—but God is saying that it is by faith you are saved, by the Grace of God and not by the religion of the Jews.

GAL 5:7 "You were running a good race. Who cut in on you and kept you from obeying the truth? [8] That kind of persuasion does not come from the one who calls you. [9] "A little yeast works through the whole batch of dough." [10] I am confident in the Lord that you will take no other view. The one who is throwing you into confusion will pay the penalty, whoever he may be. [11] Brothers, if I am still preaching circumcision, why am I still being persecuted? In that case the offense of the cross has been abolished. [12] As for those agitators, I wish they would go the whole way and emasculate themselves!"

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GAL 5:13 “You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love. [14] The entire law is summed up in a single command: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” [15] If you keep on biting and devouring each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.”

GAL 5:16 “**So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature.** [17] For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want. [18] But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under law.”

GAL 5:19 “The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; [20] idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions [21] and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.”

What are these things? Are they not feelings? Ask yourself what is anger? How do you know you are angry? Do you not know it because you feel mad and so you are angry? So isn't anger a feeling as are all of these deeds of the flesh? So as you put your faith in the flesh—the evil one—he too will reward you with feelings. As you are disobedient to God he will reward you with these feelings—the spiritual controls the physical.

GAL 5:22 “**But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, [23] gentleness and self-control.** Against such things there is no law. [24] Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires (feelings). [25] Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. [26] Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.”

Now ask yourself what are these? How do you know you are at peace, or joyful? Do you not feel happy and are joyful? Or you do not feel angry and so you feel you are at peace? So are these fruits of the (Holy) Spirit not feelings? When you are obedient, do you not feel peaceful? So the Holy Spirit gives you peace as a reward for being obedient to God. Hence you acted on your faith by being obedient to God, He returns to the fact of Him helping you in your obedience, and then the Holy Spirit rewards you with feelings—the 3 F's: Faith, Fact, Feelings—this is how the Kingdom of God works.

GAL 6:1 “Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted. [2] Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. [3] If anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself. [4] **Each one should test his own actions.** Then he can

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take pride in himself, without comparing himself to somebody else, [5] for each one should carry his own load.”

To test your own actions is to find out why you are acting that way. You need to find out what your true motive was that caused you to act out that feeling. So, yes test your self and find out the truth behind what you did and why. Then you will know by which spirit you are living—the Holy Spirit or the spirit of the world/flesh.

GAL 6:6 “Anyone who receives instruction in the word must share all good things with his instructor.”

GAL 6:7 **“Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked.** A man reaps what he sows. [8] The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. [9] Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. [10] Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.”

GAL 6:11 “See what large letters I use as I write to you with my own hand!

GAL 6:12 “Those who want to make a good impression outwardly are trying to compel you to be circumcised. The only reason they do this is to avoid being persecuted for the cross of Christ. [13] Not even those who are circumcised obey the law, yet they want you to be circumcised that they may boast about your flesh. [14] May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. [15] Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything; what counts is a new creation. [16] Peace and mercy to all who follow this rule, even to the Israel of God.”

GAL 6:17 “Finally, let no one cause me trouble, for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus.”

What is True Life?

True life. What is it? Is it collecting possessions and things that break and corrode or rust, that get stolen or lost, right? What is life? Is it power and control over people, right? Perhaps it is basing your life on or for another person, who will eventually die? Or your life your work that is unforgiving, relentless, and ungrateful that has you working to death and until you die? Is it striving and scraping to get ahead, dog eat dog, which is full of stress and frustration? Is your life a gathering and hoarding of wealth and money? All of this causes ulcers, high blood pressure and other stressed and worry related diseases?

1TI 6:6 “But godliness with contentment is great gain. [7] For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. [8] But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. [9] People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction. [10] For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.”

Or is it being touched by a simple sunset or beautiful person or moon? Or is life living in love, peace and happiness? I prefer this one. I prefer to have peace in my heart, full of love and happiness knowing where I am going and who loves me, and knowing who cares for me and wants me happy, and who wants to take away my frustrations and stress, and replace it with an easier way of living. This is what you get when you are obedient to God, for He says through Jesus:

MT 11:27 "All things have been committed to Me by My Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.”

MT 11:28 "**Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. [29] Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. [30] For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.**"

All He wants is what is best for us. He does not want us to get sick with worry or frustrated with work. So He says here that He wants to give us rest. He wants us to take His yoke to use. In the old days of Jesus, the yoke is the wooden device that secures around the neck that the farmers used to connect 2 oxen together, and it is in turn connected to the wagon or plow so that they can pull it. He says that His work for us is easier than ours, and He wants to trade: His for ours. He then in turn will provide for us (see below) and give us rest and peace. Finally He will dwell in us and live in us. Growing in us the fruits of the Spirit: His love, peace, joy, happiness and more. To me this is life. This is living the true Christian life.

Please note: Please do not get me wrong; He is not saying that life will be perfect with out any problems or troubles. What He is saying is that being righteous will help you get through and survive the troubles and problems. He is not saying that life will not have its up and downs or be a bed of roses with only milk and honey, but He is saying that He will be with you through it all and He will give you peace and joy in your heart for comfort and keep you safe. He is saying that if you stay with Him and follow Him, He will get you through it all. Then when it is all over, He will touch, heal, love and support you, and in the end He will bring you closer to Him and love you. Then He will provide milk and honey.

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It is better to be obedient or even a slave to the One who cares, who loves, who died for you and only wants the best for you than to be free (an illusion like in the Matrix) under a disguised dictator and ruthless leader; one who in reality hates and despises you and wants nothing more than to totally destroy you and your family with as much pain and suffering as possible.

1TI 6:3 “If anyone teaches false doctrines and does not agree to the sound instruction of our Lord Jesus Christ and to godly teaching, [4] he is conceited and understands nothing. He has an unhealthy interest in controversies and quarrels about words that result in envy, strife, malicious talk, evil suspicions [5] and constant friction between men of corrupt mind, who have been robbed of the truth and who think that godliness is a means to financial gain.”

2TI 4:1 “In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of His appearing and His kingdom, I give you this charge: [2] Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage--with great patience and careful instruction. [3] For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. [4] They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. [5] But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.”

Christians

Many people call themselves Christians, but many people are wrong, they are not a Christian. A Christian is a person who has been Born Again, who has the Holy Spirit living in them, who has decided to follow and obey Jesus no matter what.

It is about life with God, because of the sacrifice of His only birthed Son, Jesus. See Chapter 5 for review on Born Again.

There are many religions, beliefs, customs, religious rules and regulations by man and churches. They all say that you if you do all of the things that they say and only what they say, that you will be saved. But they are wrong. It is only what Jesus says that will lead to salvation. He is not controlling. He is not demanding. He is not a dictator. He leads, pleads, guides, suggests, and shows us, but He never dictates to us. We have our free will. He respects that. He wants us to follow Him freely and willingly. He shows us the truth and then asks us to decide on it. He shows us the consequences of our actions and decisions and then lets us decide with our free will. And then if we fail, He is there to pick us up, dust us off and lets us do it again until we get it right.

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Any religion, church or organization that does the contrary, they are, frankly, evil. God hates the religious spirit. It is that evil religious spirit that killed Jesus. That evil religious spirit was in the Pharisees of the day of Jesus, and they killed Him.

It is the religious spirit that is still at war with God today. It is controlling, manipulative, demanding and total dictatorial. So this religious spirit has made many demands on those who want to fit in. It demands total surrender to it, not necessarily to God. It demands totally obedience to that religion and nothing else. That is why those religions do not want people to believe in free thought, to read the bible for only they have the right to read and understand it. I mean why should you waste your time when they know it all, just ask them and save your time. They do not believe that God helps us; that God does miracles or healings; that God talks to us; that God gives dreams and visions; or that God still has prophets and apostles.

Because if the people did believe this and that God did give the prophets, and apostles or that God even talks to us, then they know that God would denounce them for the evil false leaders they are. They know that God would say to them,

MT 7:15 "Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. [16] By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thorn bushes, or figs from thistles? [17] Likewise every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. [18] A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. [19] Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. [20] Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them."

MT 7:21 "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven. [22] Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?' [23] Then I will tell them plainly, '**I never knew you. Away from Me, you evildoers!**'"

Well how can this be? Because, they are only acting. I they do not have the Holy Spirit living in them. The Holy Spirit cannot live in a person who still has evil in their hearts.

Talk is cheap and talk is easy.

Look at TV. The people there do not believe that they are saying or doing. They are only acting. So are many religious people. They only say what they know you want to hear, so that they can control you. That is what makes them religious and not a Christian. They are acting as a Christian, but their heart is still full of evil.

God says:

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RO 10:5 "Moses describes in this way the righteousness that is by the law: "The man who does these things will live by them." [6] But the righteousness that is by faith says: "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?' " (that is, to bring Christ down) [7] "or 'Who will descend into the deep?' " (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). [8] But what does it say? "The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart," that is, the word of faith we are proclaiming: [9] That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and **believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead**, you will be saved. [10] **For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.** [11] As the Scripture says, "Anyone who trusts in Him will never be put to shame." [12] For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile--the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on Him, [13] for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

What is it here that He is saying about shame? What is shame? It is the lack of glory of God. It is what happens to us when the Glory of God is removed from us. There is only one recourse for those of shame—Hell. God will not have a shamed person in heaven.

DA 12:1 "At that time Michael, the great prince who protects your people, will arise. There will be a time of distress such as has not happened from the beginning of nations until then. But at that time your people--everyone whose name is found written in the book--will be delivered. [2] Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, **others to shame and everlasting contempt (Hell)**. [3] Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever. [4] But you, Daniel, close up and seal the words of the scroll until the time of the end. Many will go here and there to increase knowledge."

Here He shows that yes, speaking the words you say are important, but along with that word you say, you must believe them in your heart. These actors say the words but they do not believe with their hearts, because they believe in their father, the devil and not God our Father. But these actors He says in Matthew 7:23 will go to hell with their true father.

So if you are with a group that requires and demands that you only follow their rules, customs, that they demand total obedience, whether it be by rule or guilt, or manipulation, or any other form of control over you or others, then do not join, support, fellowship or have any part of them. That is the religious spirit that killed Jesus, and if it killed Jesus, just think what it wants to do to you; that is unless God has asked you to fight against that religious spirit. (How to do that is for another time in another chapter in the Advanced Manual.)

How to Live as a Christian

Once you are Born again, which makes you righteous, holy and pure, and after you are Baptized in the Holy Spirit, then you are now in the position to hear God speaking to you. How else are you going to know what God wants and how to obey God's commands? I cannot remember everything He has said in the bible or other commands from Him. I am not smart enough to learn all of what He wants me to do and understand, and I am not wise enough to know how to use what I have learned. So how can we do it? By the Holy Spirit fulfilling John 14, 15, and 16.

One of the things that get in our way to hear Him is what He calls static. It is all of the things that are going through your mind. It is all of the noise, thoughts, distractions and feelings that are going on in our soul. When you read the bible, that the main purpose of it is to help us understand all of the distractions that keep us away from God and being in His presence. As you read the bible (mostly the New Testament), you will see that He is showing you the way to remove the distractions—the static—from your life so that you can be one with Him, to be able to remove the static from your life to be able to hear Him, be with Him and live with Him always.

You will see that when you put into practice and do these things and you will get closer to God and you will be able to hear Him clearly. In the Advanced manual we talk on window control. This is the way that God has given us to remove all static. The important thing to get here is that God does speak to us and through us to others for Him.

So how do we do this, He has made it easy. The Holy Spirit is the key. **Remember John 14, 15, and 16.** God promises that the Holy Spirit will teach us all things of God, He will remind us of all things He has taught us and He will guide us to all truth as long as He is living in you. But how will He do this?

One-way is to read the bible that was written by men who received messages directly from God as they heard His voice. But we too can hear His voice and know the will of our Father. Look at these scriptures.

Well God says that His sheep hears and knows His voice. He often uses the idea of Him being the good Shepard and we are His sheep.

PS 100:3 "Know that the LORD is God.
It is He who made us, and we are His;
we are His people, the sheep of His pasture."

MT 25:31 "When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, He will sit on His throne in heavenly glory. [32] All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. [33] He will put the sheep on His right and the goats on His left."

JN 10:1 "I tell you the truth, the man who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. [2] The man who enters by the gate is the shepherd of his sheep. [3] The watchman opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. [4] When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice. [5] But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger's voice." [6] Jesus used this figure of speech, but they did not understand what He was telling them."

JN 10:7 "Therefore Jesus said again, "I tell you the truth, I am the gate for the sheep. [8] All who ever came before Me were thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. [9] I am the gate; whoever enters through Me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture. [10] The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."

JN 10:11 "I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. [12] The hired hand is not the shepherd who owns the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. [13] The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep."

JN 10:14 "I am the Good Shepherd; I know My sheep and My sheep know Me-- [15] just as the Father knows Me and I know the Father--and I lay down My life for the sheep. [16] I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. **They too will listen to My voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd.** [17] The reason My Father loves Me is that I lay down My life--only to take it up again. [18] No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of My own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from My Father."

He has indicated also to Elijah as to where He lives and how He communicates.

1KI 19:7 "The angel of the LORD came back a second time and touched him and said, "Get up and eat, for the journey is too much for you." [8] So he got up and ate and drank. Strengthened by that food, he traveled forty days and forty nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of God. [9] There he went into a cave and spent the night."

And the word of the LORD came to him: "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

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1KI 19:10 He replied, "I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, broken down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too."

1KI 19:11” The LORD said, "Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." “

“Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. [12] After the earthquake came a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. **And after the fire came a gentle whisper (a small still voice—King James and Modern version).** [13] When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave.”

Then a voice said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"”

1KI 19:14 “He replied, "I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, broken down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too.””

1KI 19:15 “The LORD said to him, "Go back the way you came, and go to the Desert of Damascus. When you get there, anoint Hazael king over Aram. [16] Also, anoint Jehu son of Nimshi king over Israel, and anoint Elisha son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah to succeed you as prophet. [17] Jehu will put to death any who escape the sword of Hazael, and Elisha will put to death any who escape the sword of Jehu. [18] Yet I reserve seven thousand in Israel--all whose knees have not bowed down to Baal and all whose mouths have not kissed him.””

As you can see the Lord talked to Elijah in two ways, in side of the cave, it was the Word that spoke to bring Elijah in to God’s presence. It is important to see this here. There is a big difference here between the Word of the Lord and the “Small still voice”. The word of the Lord penetrates anything and everything. The word of the Lord can touch the most evil or good person. The word of the Lord can touch a person who does not know the Lord or wants the Lord or even hates the Lord. It can touch you in the deepest pit of damnation. It is the word of the Lord that puts the small measure of Faith in us. The Lord can use the word of the Lord to get an evil person to prophesy to us, but that does not mean that that person is saved—Born again. It means that the Lord wants to use that person to get message to you, so that means that God has mercy on you, not that that person is saved or a Christian.

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RO 12:3 “For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, **in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you.** [4] Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, [5] so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. [6] We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. [7] If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; [8] if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully.”

RO 12:9 “Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. [10] Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves. [11] Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. [12] Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. [13] Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.”

To follow up with that, only a saved, Born again, Christian can hear the “Small still voice”. If you noticed, that only once Elijah was finally obedient—righteous—, by going to the opening of the cave at the direction of the word of the Lord, which is being Born again and obedient, did he finally come into the presence of the Lord. Then God showed him where He lived, He lived in the “Small still voice”. So what is the “Small still voice”? “Small still voice” is the Holy Spirit and you can only hear the Holy Spirit when you are obedient to the Lord in all things.

How can it be a voice if it was still? The stillness is Him living in Elijah. It was His presence in Elijah. It was His Spirit in Elijah that God communicated through. So the voice was communication and the still means it is a directly into Elijah’s heart.

The other one, the Word, it was a message from the Lord directly into his mind. The Word is like a two edged sword that can penetrate anything.

HEB 4:12 “For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. [13] Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.”

So the Word could penetrate Elijah’s fearful heart and mind and bring him to God, even in a hiding place like that cave or pit that we create for ourselves.

So God is in the small, still voice. God is also in His word.

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JN 1:1 “In the beginning was the **Word**, and the **Word** was with God, and the **Word** was God. [2] He was with God in the beginning.”

JN 1:3 “Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made. [4] In Him was life, and that life was the light of men. [5] The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.”

So how do we know the will of God? We have to hear it. We have to read it. We have to live it. And we have to live with it. In reality, everything from here on out, is practicing hearing and obeying God’s will, whether it is written or from within you.

GE 15:6 “Abram believed the LORD, and He credited it to him as righteousness.”

RO 3:21 “But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. [22] This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, [23] for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, [24] and are justified freely by His grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. [25] God presented Him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in His blood. He did this to demonstrate His justice, because in His forbearance He had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished-- [26] He did it to demonstrate His justice at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.”

RO 3:27 “Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded. On what principle? On that of observing the law? No, but on that of faith. [28] For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from observing the law. [29] Is God the God of Jews only? Is He not the God of Gentiles too? Yes, of Gentiles too, [30] since there is only one God, who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through that same faith. [31] Do we, then, nullify the law by this faith? Not at all! Rather, we uphold the law.”

RO 4:1 “What then shall we say that Abraham, our forefather, discovered in this matter? [2] If, in fact, Abraham was justified by works, he had something to boast about--but not before God. [3] What does the Scripture say? "**Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.**"

RO 4:4 “Now when a man works, his wages are not credited to him as a gift, but as an obligation. [5] However, to the man who does not work but trusts God who justifies the wicked, **his faith is credited as**

righteousness. [6] David says the same thing when he speaks of the blessedness of the man to whom God credits righteousness apart from works:

RO 4:7 "Blessed are they
whose transgressions are forgiven,
whose sins are covered.

RO 4:8 Blessed is the man
whose sin the Lord will never count against him."

RO 4:9 "Is this blessedness only for the circumcised, or also for the uncircumcised? We have been saying that Abraham's faith was credited to him as righteousness. [10] Under what circumstances was it credited? Was it after he was circumcised, or before? It was not after, but before! [11] And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness that he had by faith while he was still uncircumcised. So then, he is the father of all who believe but have not been circumcised, in order that righteousness might be credited to them. [12] And he is also the father of the circumcised who not only are circumcised **but who also walk in the footsteps of the faith that our father Abraham had before he was circumcised.**"

RO 4:13 "It was not through law that Abraham and his offspring received the promise that he would be heir of the world, but through the righteousness that comes by faith. [14] For if those who live by law are heirs, faith has no value and the promise is worthless, [15] because law brings wrath. And where there is no law there is no transgression."

RO 4:16 "Therefore, **the promise comes by faith**, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham's offspring--not only to those who are of the law but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all. [17] As it is written: "I have made you a father of many nations." He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed--the God who gives life to the dead and calls things that are not as though they were."

RO 5:1 "Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, [2] through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. [3] Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; [4] perseverance, character; and character, hope. [5] And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out **His love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit**, whom he has given us.

RO 5:6 “You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. [7] Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. [8] But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

Conclusion: Faith Without Works is Dead

1TI 6:11 “But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. [12] **Fight the good fight of the faith.** Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses. [13] In the sight of God, who gives life to everything, and of Christ Jesus, who while testifying before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you [14] to keep this command without spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, [15] which God will bring about in his own time--God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, [16] who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honor and might forever. Amen.”

JAS 1:2 “Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, [3] because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. [4] Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. [5] If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. [6] But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. [7] That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord; [8] he is a double-minded man, unstable in all he does.”

JAS 1:9 “The brother in humble circumstances ought to take pride in his high position. [10] But the one who is rich should take pride in his low position, because he will pass away like a wild flower. [11] For the sun rises with scorching heat and withers the plant; its blossom falls and its beauty is destroyed. In the same way, the rich man will fade away even while he goes about his business.”

JAS 1:12 “**Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him.**”

2TI 4:6 “For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time has come for my departure. [7] **I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.** [8] Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge,

Putting Faith into Action

will award to me on that day--and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.”

RO 14:22 “So whatever you believe about these things keep between yourself and God. Blessed is the man who does not condemn himself by what he approves. [23] But the man who has doubts is condemned if he eats, because his eating is not from faith; and **everything that does not come from faith is sin.**”

Here He shows how important faith is when He says that **everything that does not come from faith is sin.** When He says everything He means everything. This goes back to test yourself. An easy way to test yourself is to evaluate yourself and see if what you were doing was based on your faith in God and His word. Simply did you do it because you believe it is what God wanted for what you wanted? Did you do it because you did it for your self, or you did it selfishly or did you do it because it was Godly and what God wanted?

And finally:

JAS 2:12 “Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, [13] because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment!”

JAS 2:14 “What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims (talk is cheap) to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? [15] Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. [16] If one of you says to him, "Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it? [17] **In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.**” (or **faith without works is dead—KJV**)

JAS 2:18 “But someone will say, "You have faith; I have deeds." Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by what I do. [19] You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that--and shudder.”

So if demons believe in Jesus Christ, does that mean they are saved? How can they, they have already been judged for Hell. So believing alone is not enough, or do you suppose that they but their belief in Jesus to work and do Godly things, so thereby putting their faith to work!! NO. They cannot, they will not be or act Godly, it is against their nature, or spirit, for their spirit is evil and not Godly. So believing and having faith in God is not a complete faith in God, to make you faith be righteous, you must but it to work doing Godly things, acting in a Godly way, acting from your true nature, your Spiritual nature, the spiritual nature that come from God when you are Born again.

JAS 2:20 **“You foolish man, do you want evidence that faith without deeds is useless? (dead) [21] Was not our ancestor Abraham considered righteous for what he did when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? [22] You see that his faith and his actions were working together, and his faith was made complete by what he did. [23] And the scripture was fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness," and he was called God's friend. [24] You see that a person is justified by what he does and not by faith alone.”**

God says oh so many times that if you love Me you will follow My commands—John 14, 15 and 16. The New Testament is full of His commands. The greatest is to do Godly things, to live a Godly life always, not just church or when you think that some one is watching—God is always watching, but when no one is watching or when you are amidst strangers—always. Always put your faith to work or you are nothing but dead for your faith is dead and without faith you cannot receive the gift of life—Ephesians 2:8.

