

UNDERSTANDING FAITH SERIES

THE WALK OF FAITH

II Cor. 5:6-7 *So we are always of good courage; we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight.* It says here that we walk by faith and not by sight. As far as God is concerned walking by faith is expressed over and over again in the New Testament. You don't have verses that talk about jumping except where it says leaping for joy. You don't have the jump of faith. It talks about walking in the Spirit too. Walking tells us that there are steps that are involved when we walk.

We have covered on the two separate areas of operating by faith under the anointing upon and the anointing within. As we understand these principles and flow along with them, you understand that what we believe is expressed by our actions. Our actions tell us or tell others our faith and it's the evidence of our faith. And since our actions can grow, therefore our faith can grow accordingly. The first time you act on something it may be difficult. Then as you continually act on a certain principle it becomes habitual. And by the time it becomes habitual it also becomes a sub-conscious part of you. It becomes a character in your life. Bad habits are formed in the same way but it works on a negative area, where you do something bad first. Your conscience plays a role in convicting you. But if you keep on doing it in a certain area of evil or sin it becomes a habit. And that habit becomes a part of your character. And you end up having a desire for the wrong thing.

On the positive side walking by faith has to be developed. We can develop it until it

becomes a habit in our life. And as we grow in life it will keep growing from faith to faith until Jesus comes. Those things that were hard for you to do one year ago by faith may be it is easy for you this year. But there are some things this year you have to do by faith that are not quite as easy. But two years from now you will look back at this year you will say that was difficult at that time but its easy here now. We realize that we are growing by faith and the actual growth is sealed when you act on it. No matter how much you believe something of faith, you believe something or know something, the final knock of the hammer on the nail, the final judgment pass like the judge knocking the hammer on the table; the final seal of it is when you act. We are going to speak of some areas in that area.

Lets have some scriptures in the book of James chapter 2:17-26 *So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead. But some one will say, "You have faith and I have works. Show me your faith apart from your works, and I by my works will show you my faith. You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe and shudder. Do you want to be shown, you foolish fellow, that faith apart from works is barren? Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he offered his son Isaac upon the altar? You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by works, and the scriptures was fulfilled which says, "Abraham believed God and it was reckoned to him as righteousness" and he was called the friend of God. You see that a man is justified by works and not by faith alone. And in the same way was not also Rahab the harlot justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out another way? For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so faith apart from works is dead.*

As far as God is concerned He is going to judge us and reward us by our actions. He is not going to just judge by our intentions although that plays a role in the total judgment. Paul says in I Cor. 13 that you can do something without the right intention. You could give your body to be burnt, sell all you have and give to the poor but have not love. It says it profits you nothing. There is no reward in heaven for anything that is not done out of love. If its done out of the motive of self-glorification, there is no reward. Its not placed in God's book that it was an action that was done out of the motivation of the Spirit. It was the works of the flesh. So our motivation our intentions are important to God. And if our works are not based on the right motives and intentions they are considered works of the flesh. The flesh is working but the Spirit is not motivating you.

The opposite side also needs to be considered. And that is sometimes we have the right intention, we have the right motive and we have the correct amount of knowledge to act on it but we do nothing about it. It is also not good. And sometimes we may fall into the category where we do the wrong thing about it. And we do know that the end doesn't justify the means. That means that your motives may be correct and if your actions don't conform to the Word its also bad. So the motivation alone is not for your salvation or for rewards. It is not the basis. By itself it is important because it forms a part of how God judges us. And this is important for us for one day when we stand before the judgment seat of Christ these are the areas that will be very important. Why we do the things that we do? What motivates us? It will all come forth and they will be considered very heavily.

But it is only one of the points considered. God will not just pass a judgment on your life based on that. The other part of the judgment will be passed based on how well you carried that out. Whether you did it wrongly with the right intention or you did it correctly with the right intention. Or you have the right intention but you did nothing about that. A lot of people have dreams and visions but die without performing them. A lot of Christians lived and died with the right intention. I am sure God likes people of action who believes and who have the right motives to say it; and not only say it but do it. Long ago I attended a conference when I was a seminarian student. There was this preacher who came up. He said a point not too nice for Asians but well its good to take it in a teachable way. He was making this comment. He says the Germans when they want to do something they don't tell you they just do it. The Americans when they want to do something they tell you and then they do it. Then he said the Chinese they say it and they tell it but they don't do it. It is not totally true in a sense but he was making a point. He was making a point that sometimes people get away with the fact that they say that they are going to do it but their actions do not back up their words. We need actions. We need to act on our faith. This teaching is a basis of what we have been already touching on. Don't take this tape or this teaching by itself. You cannot act properly if you don't understand the other two teachings previous to this where we talked about discerning faith. This teaching this morning is based on the past two. We must develop the ability to discern faith. Having done that we need to consider the fact that acting in faith is a step-by-step process and not a jump. God will bring you from one point to the next point. Whether you walk by the anointing upon or anointing within both will require faith when you act. But faith operates step by

step. II Cor. 5:7 says we walk by faith and not by sight. That tells us that there are steps involved.

What is the definition of a walk? A walk is where you put one foot before the other and you move in a certain direction. So our walk consists of steps not jumps. And each step takes you in a predetermined direction. Depending on the length of the walk a walk consists of many steps. And each step is not a struggle. It is different from a run. A good walk is quite relaxing.

Lets give some examples here. Supposing that you were to operate by the anointing upon, God will require you to move in the anointing step by step. In I Sam chapter 16:1-2 *The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul, seeing I have rejected him from being king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil, and go; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." And Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears it, he will kill me." And the Lord said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, "I have come to sacrifice to the Lord."*

So Samuel was told by the Lord to go to the house of Jesse the Bethlehemite in order to anoint one of his sons as king. That was the instruction. So Samuel went to Bethlehem and as he went to Bethlehem do you know he knew the house to go to? He knew the family to go to. He even knew that the family had many sons. And he knew his objective. It took faith to take that step. By that time he had known a lot about that family. But do you know he did not know which son was to be anointed king? When he saw the first son he said, "This must be the one." But the Lord said, "No this is not the one." That tells us that Samuel didn't know. And he had to make all the seven sons stand before him one by one. If he knew which son to anoint why did he had to march all the seven sons before him? He would have hit the bull's eye if he had started from the youngest. And as he went down the line there was none. For a moment it looks as if his mission had failed. If most of us were in Samuel's place at that time we would be doubting. "I wonder whether I heard correctly or not." But Samuel knew that he heard it right. So he asked Jesse, "Do you have another son?" Jesse said, "Yes, he is taking care of the sheep." So Samuel said, "Call him," and he came. "That is the one," the Lord said. Now even when you operate by the anointing God will lead you step by step.

Let me give some practical examples. Supposing you are operating by prophecy. You have to move step by step. He may give you everything about what to do with a person. He does sometimes but still He leaves a little bit out. God always keep the trump card. He always makes sure you need faith to step out. God may show you the details of what to do in a meeting. You know a certain person to call out. You know what to tell about that person's condition, what to prophesy over that person and how to pray over that person. But you may not know when the timing is to do that. He keeps the trump card. You could be halfway preaching and He said, "Now is the time." And you said, "Yes Lord." There is always an element of faith.

Or you could be in a meeting and your normal operation by the anointing upon is prophecy. And you sense a prophetic anointing coming. You know you are supposed to prophesy to people but to whom shall you prophesy? And so you are going to move into that area. So the first sense that you may have is a certain people. You may have a drawing to certain people. You may look over the faces of people and see some indications of the Lord's Spirit drawing their life. So you call those people up.

And as you call those people up you have no idea what you are going to say to them. Now that takes faith because when they come up and you look at them and they look at you wondering why you call them up. And you don't have a word for them. Being a prophet you are supposed to act in prophecy. And you look at them and they look at you. All you have is a good staring session. That is why when ministers are taught how to operate the Word and in training school where they are trained to do that. They have to learn what to do supposing they miss. What happens if you missed it? You called the wrong person out and you got nothing from the Lord. And as that person stepped up the Lord whisper in your ear, "You have the wrong one." What are you going to do? You must do what we call the great cover up. Say, "Praise God brother I just wanted to pray with you." That is how some of them cover up. I am sharing all these things very sincerely and opening with you to let you realize that minister who ministers do not start as perfect. They learn in the process and they grow to be more accurate in the process. They are not born perfect. And so there are times that they learn.

And perhaps if you are new in this area, you made a mistake and you don't know what to do. You have made a mistake how dumb can you be. You are so new in the ministry. You made your biggest dumb mistake in your life. What do you do? Resign and say, "Ladies and gentlemen I called this wrong person up and I am not worth it. I just missed it. I just cannot make it in the ministry. You just go home. Ladies and gentlemen lets have the benediction now." That's not the way to do it. The young give up easily because they haven't faced the difficulties of life. The older you grow you, you face many difficulties and it gives you a greater persistence.

So in the anointing upon you operate by faith. If you got the first step right and as the person stands there, then God gives the next word. His gifts began to operate. Step two and then there may be step three, step five, as you move step by step, you are like a vessel hearing the instructions of God. But God will hold you through faith step by step in the anointing upon.

Under the anointing within, God deals with your personal life. God could be telling you and working in your life and saying, "I want you to give such and such amount." You have never give a hundred dollars at one time before. And God said give it. And your salary is only four hundred dollars and its twenty-five percent of your salary. And you know if you give that much you may have to fast for about three days. So you know that God spoke to you. And you took the first step. Took the hundred dollars and you brought it and gave it. The first step was not so easy. Then as you continually do it month by month it gets easier and God's blessings start coming. So you began to prosper and then finally God says give five hundred dollars at one shot. Some of you may say, "Get thee behind me Satan." Satan very rarely tells you to give. The flesh does and human beings do. Don't give because of your own personal hearing of your own self. Sometimes a feeling of self-condemnation or comparison between you and other people motivates you wrongly. Secondly sometimes you are motivated by what other men tell you. You should give guided by the Holy Spirit. Men will tell you to give but the devil never. So remember there are two places that tell you to give, man and God. So now here you are it is now easy for you to give a hundred dollars. Finally after much prayer and fasting just to check it out, you give that five hundred dollars. Then God starts blessing you and you become more and more blessed. And it became easy to give

that amount. See God deals in your life step by step. He will never get you to take that step of faith without preparing your life beforehand. He will not tell you to jump the jump of faith. He will never.

An example of a jump of faith in the financial area is the following scenario. If you are new in the things of faith, and your faith is not fully developed, suddenly you have this compulsion from somewhere (usually it is from man and wrong teaching) to sell everything you have and give up all your salary. And you did everything. You sold everything you have and you sing, "All to Jesus I surrender." And you took your whole month's paycheck and you gave it. Finally you have done everything and all you have is the shirt on your back. Then you are standing on the street corner wondering what to do next. For the next month all you have is a coconut leaf above you. And you are scavenging about for some leftover food. God didn't tell you to do that. See your faith level was not ready for that.

We need to understand that God never tells you to jump by faith. There is no scripture for that. Instead it tells us to walk by faith. There is a step-by-step process. Acting in faith is step by step. He will never tell you out of the blue to minister to the sick when you have never ministered to the sick at all and you are new to these sorts of things. He will never out of the blue tell you. I am talking not about the anointing upon but the anointing within. Without the anointing upon under the normal process you don't suddenly go out to pray for people who are sick. The anointing upon is different. You have a special leading to do that. But the anointing within as you pray for people who are sick and you visit the hospitals, your faith grows in praying for people. If you are new in praying for people God will never tell you, "Here, you see this guy with tubes all over, go lay your hands on him." And you say, "Praise God I prayed for you. You are healed now," and you start pulling out all those tubes. And before long he would be in the Intensive Care Unit all because of you. God will never do that.

If you have the anointing upon, you will have that special leading towards specific individuals as the Holy Spirit gives you the discerning of faith. By this discerning of faith, you will be able to single out individuals who have faith to receive healing. You won't have to learn all that operation. But in the anointing within you would never be able to heal the sick if your personal faith level is not up to it. But as you

begin praying for people who are sick in the hospital and you are walking and growing from faith to faith, the day will come that your personal faith and the anointing within your spirit would be strong enough to heal difficult cases. Today I have the boldness to lay hands on the sick even without the anointing upon because my spiritual level has allowed me to have the discerning of faith. I could sense that a person has got the faith to be healed and with the anointing within I would be bold to tell that person to act on his faith. "Rise up, in Jesus' Name." "Be healed, in Jesus' Name." "Stand up and walk, in Jesus' Name." I would not do that if I sensed that his level of faith is not there.

This daring kind of attitude comes because you have seen many people healed. So it builds. As you begin to act on the discerning of faith, more personal faith is built into you. Each time you act outwardly something works inwardly. Increasing faith becomes established in you. This is why the bible talks about being established in faith. And there is now concrete faith inside you. It has been consolidated at that faith level. Just like those people who exercise and build their muscles big. What do they do? They start with dumb bells. After sometime it gets easy so they increase the weight of the dumb bells. Every time they increase there is more struggle in the muscles. They do it gradually. They don't go straight. Even today physicians will tell you that when you exercise you must sort of warm up. You don't just get up in the morning and go for a marathon at the maximum speed possible for a human being to run. That's not advisable since it will overstretch your body. If you want to do that you have to build it up slowly. One day you run one mile, two miles, three miles and you are constantly building up your muscles and stamina and so your body won't be overstretching. There are people who die due to over exercise. It has to be built up. So these are areas that we have to learn. We are concentrating on acting. Today we are teaching on walking by faith and how to actually do it. The act of faith has to come one at a time.

Lets look at the life of Abraham and see how God deals with him. He is the father of faith. Notice how God deals with him. Every time you act on faith in the realm of faith there are things you give up in the natural to lean more on the spiritual. The first act of faith that God requires of Abraham was in Genesis chapter 12 when God said, "Abraham get out of this land and go to the place which I will give to you." The first act of Abraham was to give up his homeland. So in Genesis chapter 12 Abraham starts taking that act of faith to move out of his hometown. All of us who

have lived in a certain city long enough know it is not easy to move to other cities too. It is not easy to shift to other towns to live in. There are so many considerations you have to think about. So Abraham has to pull his roots out and move into the unknown. If anyone of us today were to shift to a different place, you would probably find out what is over the other side before you go. Abraham didn't have the advantage that you have. He did not have a chance to find out and get everything prepared over that side. He went into the unknown. He gave up his homeland. It was his first step.

There are many other steps. He obeyed God but not fully like most of us. God told him get out of his homeland and kinsfolk. Get rid of your uncles and aunties. Don't take this scripture out of context. God is not telling any of you to do that but God may be telling you not to be influenced by them. He obeyed half of it. He left the place but he brought Lot along. That was his kinsfolk. And God had to wait until Abraham was willing to give up Lot before leading him to his next step of faith. The place he did that was in the next chapter 13. Abraham and Lot had strife. If God tells you to do something and if you don't do it, it will cause you more headaches and problems than you realize. It always pays to obey God. The devil works opposite from God. The devil tries to give you something then exacts payment later. He says "Enjoy now, pay later. Get all the pleasures and enjoy yourself." And after that he comes and collects payment. So the devil gives you on credit. You say, "I have nothing to give to the devil." Yes you have your health so he takes your health and put sickness on you. The wages of sin is death.

God works the opposite way. When you first follow Him it costs you and then He pays you. And this world is being influenced by the devil who tries to get people to spend money they don't have and kill them by debts. So this is the world system. If you are smart and you are wise in the things of God you will use whatever its there to your advantage instead of to your disadvantage. Credit cards are not wrong. If you use it not to spend money you don't have but you use it as a convenient way to travel and to spend money instead of carrying money which you have, then it is alright. As long as you base your credit card expenditure on your available bank and cash balances there is no problem with that. But behind that through the world system the devil is trying to motivate people to spend money that they don't have and sometimes can never have and kill them by debts. So there are two opposing forces at work. The devil tries to get you to take it first and pay later. God tells you,

you pay the cost now and I will reward you later.

And Abraham had strife because he did not obeyed God fully. Finally when Lot and Abraham were striving over the pasture lands for their flocks look at Abraham's selflessness. He told Lot, "You choose which ever land you prefer to take and I will take the other." Abraham was giving Lot the first choice. By traditional customs Abraham should have the first choice because he was older than Lot. But he told Lot you have the first choice. You know what Abraham gave up? He gave up the best choices. He gave up the best land possible for his own cattle and flock. He was selfless. It was an act of faith to do that. See he was trusting in God to provide and not in trusting in what he can get for himself. He trusted that God would take care of him. How many people will say, "You take your pick and I will take whatever is left over." When it comes to small things maybe. If you want the chicken drumstick go ahead just give me the chicken wings will do. But it comes to bigger things like inheritance, they will be prepared to take the case to the courts. They are not giving because man basically is selfish. It takes an act of faith of Abraham to trust God. Just let them take. My source is not man its God. So that was his second act of faith to do that. And when he did that Lot took the best land and all Abraham had was the leftovers.

But when Lot has left God appeared to Abraham and said, "Abraham look North, South, East and West all that land I give to you." When he was giving God gave to him. It was an act of faith and God declare that all the land was his. When Lot got into trouble, Abraham the nice kind uncle organized an army from whatever servants he had went and rescued Lot. After he rescued Lot and conquered all those people, the kings who were held by Abraham said this Genesis chapter 14:21 *And the king of Sodom said to Abram, "Give me the persons, but take the goods for yourself."* By the law of those days it was conquerors keepers. Since Abraham conquered everything the loot belonged to Abraham. But Abraham walked by faith and not by sight. And this is what Abraham said in verse 22 *I have sworn to the Lord God Most High.* That means he had made a vow to the Lord. In verse 23 what is his covenant. *That I would not take a thread or a sandal-thong or anything that is yours, lest you should say, "I have made Abram rich."* That's a man of faith talking. What a sacrifice he made. See God was training him to give up things one by one. He is training his faith.

As his faith increased gradually, God began to deal with him in one very hard thing because his emotional life was involved. You find in Genesis chapter 21 Abraham had Ishmael through Hagar. He also had Isaac by that time. But something happened in his family. There was strife. See there is always strife when you don't walk in the Spirit. Whenever you walk in the flesh you are sowing future trouble. Abraham missed God when he went into Hagar and conceived Ishmael. There was so much strife that Sarah put her foot down. Sarah said, "There is no way I am going to compromise. You got to chase this Hagar out and her son." That is the way Sarah was talking at that time. In chapter 21:11 the matter was displeasing in Abraham's sight.

I want you to realize that Abraham had normal feelings that I know a father would have. It is not easy for a mother to give up a child who is her flesh. How would you like if somebody takes your child and you don't know what is going to happen to them any more? Mothers would have sleepless nights wondering what is happening to their loved ones. But here is Abraham and it was an emotional struggle too to give up Ishmael. After all Ishmael was also his own flesh. That is why it displeased him. Here we have Abraham was able to give that up too. He was able to give up not because Sarah said it. He had listened to Sarah before and look what they got, Ishmael. But because God said, "Abraham listen to Sarah and let Hagar and Ishmael go." And he let them go. Emotionally it must been painful. Saying goodbye to someone of your flesh is always painful. And it is not as painful if its temporary. This is permanent. Abraham had to say goodbye to Hagar and Ishmael permanently. It hurts emotionally but it was a different step of faith. He had faith to release it to God knowing that God will take care of them.

And the greatest trial in Abraham's life was in the next chapter. When God said, "Abraham give me Isaac," in all the video shows about Abraham's life, the first thing that comes on would be a loud sounding music followed by a hard wrenching cry. The struggle he had but somehow the next morning he looks okay and he walks off to the mountain with Isaac. That's not in the bible. The bible tells me in the book of Hebrews chapter 11 that Abraham believed in God. The video shows portray it inaccurately. See that was not the first time God told Abraham to give up something. God has been training him all the time from Genesis 12 to 21. So he is

getting into the habit of it now. Maybe if God started with that kind of demand, finished, he could never do it. But God knows us more than we know ourselves. God says, "Give up Isaac to me." Hebrews 11 said he had great confidence that God would raise up Isaac again. His faith level was there. That was the way God was operating in Abraham's life.

So we established the principles clearly that faith is a step-by-step process. God never causes us to jump. The devil may and the flesh may and man may. See man can even open doors for your ministry. But it may be a junk that God never asked you to. So it is so important to listen to God and walk step by step. That's the walk of faith. There is an under covering principle together with this is that each step God's manifestation and voice training in your life may increase and becomes harder. One natural way I can illustrate is this way. Perhaps at step one God speaks to you. God says, "Son I want you to do this." "Yes, Lord," and you did it. And you grew and you mature in the Lord. Then God says step two God spoke a bit softer, "Son I want you to do this." "Yes, Lord," step two. Then step three God starts to whisper to you, "Son I want you to do this." See you are matured and more sensitive to God's voice. And God's training is such that before if God had told you in a whisper, "Son I want you to do this," you would never even respond. As you obeyed God more and more all God has to do is whisper, and you would instantly obey. Your faith grew.

Let me illustrate from Paul's life. In Acts chapter 13 Paul started his missionary journey. By now he was 10 years old in the Lord. About that time he could be in his forties. So he was quite a middle aged, matured looking man. Mature in the affairs and things of life and quite an old Christian by now. He had at least one year's experience teaching in the local church in Antioch that is in Acts 11. Now its Acts 13 verse 2 *While they were worshipping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."* And of course they all heard it and laid hands on Paul and sent him off. That is his first missionary journey. The way God manifested and spoke was so clear cut confirmed by all these key leaders. They were all these main leaders in a group in Antioch. They were the top people in the church.

Paul's second missionary journey took off this way. In Acts chapter 15 they had

completed their first missionary journey. They had the first Jerusalem council and in verse 35 they are back in Antioch. *But Paul and Barnabas remained in Antioch, teaching and preaching the Word of the Lord, with many others also.* Now this is how their second missionary started. It says in verse 36 *And after some days Paul said to Barnabas, "Come, let us return and visit the brethren in every city where we proclaimed the Word of the Lord, and see how they are.* There was no big vision. There was no voice that said, "Separate for Me Paul and Barnabas for the second missionary journey."

You know how sometimes people are especially young Christians. God speaks in a certain way and forever they think God is always that way and they limit God. It is just like somebody crying out to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit for so long. After 5 years of crying out one day while he was in the bathtub showering away, there he was he received the baptism of the Holy Spirit in the bathtub. Now he had received then some of his friends who had not received he called them up and said, "Why don't you all come over to receive the baptism in the Spirit?" They came over and they prayed and nothing happened. Then he said I know why. Come upstairs with me, he poured all the water in the bathtub. They asked, "What is this?" He said, "This is the way God gives baptism in the Spirit." Wouldn't that be foolish? You restrict God to one *modus operandi* one mode of operation.

Now Paul started his missionary fantastically. But his second missionary journey started almost like a prompting to go. There was a prompting to visit inside him. And he knew he must go. He went and that took faith. It took faith to obey the first one but it took more faith to obey the second one. It was much later that they had a supernatural visitation, the Macedonian vision. But that one came after they had moved into the second missionary journey. See it takes more faith as you begin to walk in the things of God. Once He knows you He will require of you of those areas.

Just like Kathryn Khulman was sharing in one of her books. She was sharing how Jesus did differently with people of different levels of faith. About how one day this person saw Jesus and he saw three persons there. And Jesus came to the first one. And Jesus puts His hand on the first one. It takes quite a long time and He held this person. And the second one Jesus just touched. Then on the third one Jesus just

looked and then He went off. Any normal Tom, Dick and Harry would have interpreted that Jesus had a tremendous blessing for the first one, less for the second and least for the third. But no, this was the way the Lord showed. That the first one needs more attention - he was young in the Lord. The second one needs some attention. He was older but quite young. The third the Lord was pleased with him. The Lord just smiled at him. Don't take that every interpretation had to be that way. That was a special visitation with a message.

And Kathryn Khulman was saying in her life she never had a vision. In her life she never heard an audible voice. She had to obey God the best way she knew how. But God used her. See the key is not how God must appear to you for you to be used by God. It is how much you can hear God and train yourself to hear God and obey Him. So in the same way, as we mature God deals differently and requires more faith in His dealings than before. He will require more faith. He encourages our faith.

And in the third missionary journey of Paul in Acts chapter 18 verse 22-23 *when he had landed at Caesarea, he went up and greeted the church, and then went down to Antioch. After spending some time there he departed and went from place to place through the region of Galatia and Phrygia strengthening all the disciples.* It didn't even say what he said. He just went. Now he knew God. He knew when to do something. There was no record even of a vision like the second. In the third no vision was mentioned. Paul's faith level is such that he just moved in the mind of God. He knew the mind of God. And one of the best campaigns that ever took place within a short time was in Ephesus and one of the greatest revivals took place he was there for about three years. The church was so strong that it says the whole region heard the Word of God. It didn't start with a vision. Why, Paul's faith was growing and matured. He knew the mind of God.

God's manifestation in your life may change. Don't be a baby Christian all the time. When we grow up we are expected to take authority over some things. We are expected to be more matured. And we are expected to obey God even without some of those normal things that come. The first time that God deals in your life the angels sang, the thunder roared, the lightning flashed and the voice of God boomed and you obey it. The second round all you have was that soft voice. The third

round it was an inner prompting and you are supposed to obey too. The most important thing in serving the Lord and in walking with the Lord in the Spirit is not so much the manifestation as so much we learn to hear God. The most important thing in life is to learn to hear Him whatever His manifestation with or without spectacular ones. And you will be as successful and greatly rewarded as long as you obey God. And bless God we can hear Him. We can learn to hear Him. As we mature in God His manifestation may change so that we have to move in faith in certain areas, which we were not required to before. But you would have the faith to do it because He would have trained you by then.