

**THE LIFE OF FAITH.**

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**Lesson No.3. PRINCIPLES OF THE LIFE OF FAITH**

**1. TESTIMONY OF GOD.**

Faith starts with a word from God.

ROM 10:17 NIV *Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.*

ILLUSTRATION: Auntie Elsie and Cancer healed

**(a) TEXT FROM BIBLE showing need of surrender**

LUK 14:33 NIV *In the same way, any of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be my disciple.*

ILLUSTRATION ; LEN BETTS AND SCOTLAND: RAISING OF DEAD IN CONGO

**(b) PROPHECY from the Spirit**

ACT 13:2 NIV *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*

ILLUSTRATION: CALL TO SCOTLAND & MARRIAGE: MICAH 4:10: ATTACK BY PAPER & DELIVERED

**(c) VISION of holiness of the Lord and need of the Lost**

ISA 6:1 NIV *In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of his robe filled the temple.<sup>2</sup> Above him were seraphs, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying.*

ISA 6:7 NIV *With it he touched my mouth and said, "See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for."<sup>8</sup> Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"<sup>9</sup> He said, "Go," and tell this people: "'Be ever hearing, but never understanding; be ever seeing, but never perceiving.'*

ILLUSTRATION " CT STUDD & CANNIBALS WANT MISSIONARIES !

**(d) EXAMPLE OF A GODLY MAN**

1TI 4:12 NIV *Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity.*

ILLUSTRATION: CHILD WORD OF KNOWLEDGE & MOVING TENT

**(e) DESIRE TO SERVE OTHERS created by the Lord**

PHI 2:13 NIV *for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.*

**(f) CIRCUMSTANCES OF LIFE**

ACT 4:36 NIV Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means Son of Encouragement),<sup>37</sup> sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet.....Barnabas in Acts 13 sent to land where he had formerly owned property

ILLUSTRATION: PORTORA PRAYER: WORD OF GOD TO REAP:

Jonah 4:11 And should not I spare Nineveh, that great city, wherein are more than sixscore thousand persons that cannot discern between their right hand and their left hand; and also much cattle? (KJV)

**(G) BURDEN FOR PRAYER AND GIVING**

Jesus told apostles to pray and then sent them out

MAT 9:37 NIV Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few.<sup>38</sup> Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

10:1 He called his twelve disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out evil spirits and to heal every disease and sickness.<sup>2</sup> These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon (who is called Peter) and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John;

Illustration: BURDEN TO PRAY FOR IRELAND: CALL TO COUNTRY AND 40 church SIN SHANKHILL : NEWRY TOWN HALL AND 120 SAVED !

## 2. TOTAL CONSECRATION

### (a) BEFORE YOU KNOW THE FULL WAY AHEAD

*PRO 3:6 NIV in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight*

*ILLUSTRATION: JOURNEY TO ENGLAND AND WIRKSWORTH STARTED BY FAITH: Gareth to be born and Elsie's Mum coming: money from Ireland !*

### (b) SEVERAL TIMES OVER AFRESH

*MOSES REFUSED TO BECOME EGYPTIAN WHEN OF AGE*

*HEB 11:24 NIV By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter.*

*ILLUSTRATION : OXFORD CONSECRATION: LEAVING CHURCH MINISTRY FOR WATER BAPTISM: LEAVING PASTORATE TO GO OUT ROUND WORLD*

*LATER YIELDED AGAIN TO GOD'S CALL AT BURNING BUSH*

*EXO 3:2 NIV There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up.<sup>3</sup> So Moses thought, "I will go over and see this strange sight--why the bush does not burn up."<sup>4</sup> When the Lord saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, "Moses! Moses!" And Moses said, "Here I am."*

*EXO 3:5 NIV "Do not come any closer," God said. "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground."<sup>6</sup> Then he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob." At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.*

### (c) SEEKING TO MATCH GOD'S GIVING

*Eph 5:2 Be full of love for others, following the example of Christ who loved you and gave himself to God as a sacrifice to take away your sins. And God was pleased, for Christ's love for you was like sweet perfume to him. (TLB)*

*illustration: IF CHRIST BE GOD, AND GAVE HIMSELF TO ME, THEN NO SACRIFICE IS TOO GREAT FOR ME TO MAKE FOR HIM" CT STUDD*

### (d) SEPARATION FROM HOME AND FAMILY TIES

*MAT 10:36 NIV a man's enemies will be the members of his own household.'*

*ILLUSTRATION: CHARD PROPHECY: DO YOU LOVE MOTHER MORE THAN ME ?*

**(e) ARGUMENTS ADVANCED AGAINST LIFE OF FAITH;**

**(i) MAN MUST PROVIDE FOR OWN CHILDREN**

*2CO 12:14 NIV Now I am ready to visit you for the third time, and I will not be a burden to you, because what I want is not your possessions but you. After all, children should not have to save up for their parents, but parents for their children.*

BUT PAUL HERE DEALING WITH PRESENT NEEDS AND NOT FUTURE WORRIES

THIS IS IN CONTEXT OF SPIRITUAL CHILDREN AND CONSECRATION AND NOT MATERIAL NEEDS OF OWN FAMILY

GOD CAN UNDERTAKE FOR BOTH WHERE HE IS FIRST SOUGHT

Illustration: 152 High Street miracle of home provided:lights on Green and children in nearby school, came to the Lord !

**(ii) FAMILY MUST HAVE HIGH PRIORITY**

*1TI 5:8 NIV If anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for his immediate family, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.*

PAUL IS HERE DEALING WITH POOR WIDOWS, NOT THOSE ABLE TO EARN OWN LIVING

Illustration: my own mother a widow and when I went out by faith, Auntie gave her home in Canada !

**(1) YOUNGER WIDOWS SHOULD MARRY AGAIN**

*1TI 5:11 NIV As for younger widows, do not put them on such a list. For when their sensual desires overcome their dedication to Christ, they want to marry.*

**(2) CHRIST PROBABLY HAD CALL WHEN FATHER DEAD AND REFUSED TO ACCEPT PRESSURE FROM OWN MOTHER AND FAMILY**

*MAT 12:48 NIV He replied to him, "Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?"*

*MAT 12:49 NIV Pointing to his disciples, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers.*

Illustration: Len Betts and own mother looked after by the Lord !

**(f) SPIRITUAL CONSECRATION MADE PUBLICLY & OTHERS TOLD OF CALL OF GOD**

JIM ELLIOTT "He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose"

### **3. TRUSTING STEP BY STEP**

*PSA 37:23 NIV If the Lord delights in a man's way, he makes his steps firm;*

#### **(i) ABRAHAM WENT OUT BLINDLY BY FAITH**

*HEB 11:9 NIV By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise.*

#### **(ii) BELIEVING MAY MEAN NOT SEEING**

*2CO 5:7 NIV We live by faith, not by sight.*

#### **(iii) PETER TOLD TO LEAVE BOAT AND WALK BY FAITH**

*MAT 14:29 NIV "Come," he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus.*

### **4. TIME TO DECIDE**

#### **(i) JESUS CONSECRATED AT 12 YEARS**

*LUK 2:49 NIV "Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?"*

*Illustration: Beacon school & Hymn: "To be a pilgrim" chosen !*

#### **(ii) CALL AT 30 YEARS OF AGE**

*LUK 3:23 NIV Now Jesus himself was about thirty years old when he began his ministry. He was the son, so it was thought, of Joseph, the son of Heli,*

*Illustration: THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE AND CALL TO MINISTRY*

*2 Chr 29:11 "My sons, do not be negligent now, for the LORD has chosen you to stand before Him, to minister to Him, and to be His ministers and burn incense." (NAS)*

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## **5. TESTING AND TRIUMPH**

**(i) TEMPTATION MAY TAKE THE FORM OF;**

**(a) DOUBTING YOUR CALL**

**YOU MUST HAVE DEFINITE WORD FROM LORD AND RECORDED**

*Gal 1:15 But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by his grace,<sup>16</sup> To reveal his Son in me, that I might preach him among the heathen; immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood:(KJV)*

**ILLUSTRATION; Call of God to Ireland: money and train came into station !**

**(b) ASKING OTHERS THAN GOD TO HELP YOU**

**DO NOT PLACE CREATURE BETWEEN YOURSELF AND GOD**

*Ps 56:11 In God have I put my trust: I will not be afraid what man can do unto me. (KJV)*

*Ps 118:8 It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man. (KJV)*

**ILLUSTRATION: House & Bank loan and Manager and Elim Pastor**

**(c) GOING BACK ON YOUR REVELATION**

**cfJOHN MARK during 1st journey**

*ACT 15:38 NIV but Paul did not think it wise to take him, because he had deserted them in Pamphylia and had not continued with them in the work.*

*LUK 9:62 NIV Jesus replied, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God."*

**ILLUSTRATION: round HOUSING ESTATE & COMPLAINED:SHOULD CALL YOU GERNER~!**

**(d) NEED TO STAND IN THE EVIL DAY**

**FIRM STAND WILL LEAD TO GREATER BLESSING LATER**

*DEU 8:14 NIV then your heart will become proud and you will forget the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.<sup>15</sup> He led you through the vast and dreadful desert, that thirsty and waterless land, with its venomous snakes and scorpions. He brought you water out of hard rock.<sup>16</sup> He gave you manna to eat in the desert, something fathers had never known, to humble and to test you so that in the end it might go well with you.*

**ILLUSTRATION: ROGER FORSTER & SON HEALED**

# LIFE OF FAITH. K.GERNER BA

## Lesson 3. PRINCIPLES OF THE LIFE OF FAITH

### 1. TESTIMONY OF GOD

- (A) Text from Bible showing need of surrender. Lk.14:33
- (B) Prophecy from the Spirit. cf`Acts 13:2
- (c) Vision of holiness of the Lord & need of the lost. Isa chap 6
- (d) Example of a Godly man. 1 Timothy 4:12
- (e) Desire to serve other created by the Lord. Phil.2:13
- (f) Circumstances of life. Acts 4:36
- (g) Burden of prayer and giving. Matthew (;37-10:1

### 2. TOTAL CONSECRATION

- (A) Before knowing the full way ahead. Prov.3:6
- (B) Several times over afresh. cf. Moses. Heb 11:24
- (c) Seeking to match God's giving. Eph 5:2
- (d) Separation from home and family ties. Matt 10:36
- (e) Arguments advanced against the life of faith :
  - (I) Man must provide for own children. 2 Cor 12:14.  
God can undertake for both
  - (ii) Family must have first priority. 1 Tim 5:8  
Some widows can work for their own living !
    - (1) Younger widows should remarry. 1 Timothy 5:11.
    - (2) Christ probably had call when father dead & refused pressure. Matt.12:48-49
- (f) SPIRITUAL CONSECRATION made publicly & others told call was of God.  
Cf. Jim Elliott who died a martyr.

EXERCISE No 3

1. IN YOUR OWN WORDS, GIVE SOME OBSTACLES TO FAITH WHICH MUST BE OVERCOME AS SET OUT IN :

(a) Mark 10:13 (b) Luke 5:18-19 (c) Mark 5:35 (d) John 9:24  
(e) John 11:3-6

2. IN YOUR OWN WORDS, DESCRIBE HOW GOD ALLOWED FAITH TO BE TESTED IN THESE STORIES :

(A) JOSHUA 6:3 (B) JUDGES 7:7 (C) 1 KINGS 17:9 (D) 2 KINGS 4:3 (E) LUKE 17:14

Send your answers with s.a.e. to A.V.M. Mourne Training Centre, PO Box 1, NEWCASTLE, Co. Down. BT33 0EP

