

Promises for Battling Unbelief

Welcome to Harvest Community Church

Series: Epic Faith

Text: Hebrews 3:12 (AMP), Mark 9:16-25

~ David Wilkerson- Today some Christians are content to merely exist until they die. They don't want to risk anything, to believe God, to grow mature. They refuse to believe His Word, and have become hardened in their unbelief. Now they are living just to die.

Unbelief cannot go unchecked it must be battled. Unbelief causes us to limit God's goodness, power, love and grace. It keeps us from fully trusting God and steals the joy we have in serving Him. As with any other sin, we cannot sit by and allow unbelief to take root in our hearts.

Romans 14:23 Just like all things that are from Satan they are to be resisted. **James 4:7**

Resistance involves all of us to be in the fight resisting is spiritual, emotional and physical. Resisting requires focus, energy and correct application of God's Word.

God gives seven specific promises that equip us for the fight:

1. God's ability is greater than our need. **Matthew 6:25** God is able to meet the smallest needs and our greatest need. Life is far more complex than food or clothing. Faith involves knowing that God desires to meet all of our need. **Philippians 4:19** Faith starts by trusting God for the basic day to day thing in our lives. Recognizing that God is able to meet our need is also recognition of our own weaknesses and limitations. **2 Corinthians 12:9-11**
2. You are valuable to God. **Matthew 6:26** Doubt, worry, fear and anxiety are designed to lead to unbelief. They are meant to keep us from trusting God. All trust is built on relationship and all relationship is based on the fact that we matter and are loved. You matter to God, you are not just matter and molecules. When you see how God designed His creation to be sustained and how He delicately cares for the tiniest of His creatures, we can learn that God will take care of us. Satan wants us to believe that we don't matter to God; that we are simply pawns not children. **Galatians 3:26, 2 Corinthians 6:18, Romans 8:14, Galatians 4:7, John 1:12** Who we are in Christ speaks to how important we are to God. We must remember this in the battle.
3. Worry accomplishes nothing worthwhile. This is a fantastic promise. **Matthew 6:27** Anxiety and worry are thinking about a problem, rehearsing the problem but doing nothing about the problem. Faith strategically deals with problems. We can do far more productive things than worry. Worry is a choice and faith is a choice. Worry leads to unbelief and unbelief paralyzes. **Philippians 4:6-8** The battle of worry is won through prayer and correct thinking. Worry is not incorrect in the understanding of the problem, worry is incorrect thinking and believing about a problem.

4. God has an unending supply of **creative** care. **Matthew 6:28-30** God never runs out of the ability to provide, the willingness to provide or the unique ways in which He can provide. Look at the many singularly special things there are in God's creation and how many different ways He has done the same things in creation. There are 340 dog breeds in the world, there are 12,000 species of ants, 30,000 species of wasp and 5,416 species of mammals.
What looks impossible for us is **possible**. Faith understands this. **Matthew 19:26, Matthew 17:20, Philippians 4:13, 1 Corinthians 4:9**

5. God will supply for your need at just the right **time**. **Matthew 6:31-32** Part of faith in God involves trust in the timing of God. Belief does not have limits, including time limits. I will trust God up until a certain point and then I will choose not to believe. This is planned doubt. Planned doubt is not true faith. If we do not have our trust in God settled for the basic necessities of life we will not have great things for the trials and big steps in life.

6. The key step to battling unbelief is keeping first things **first**. **Matthew 6:33** When we are kingdom minded everything in our life comes under the Lordship of Jesus Christ. A lord is responsible for the people under his rule; our problems become his concern. When we put God first He takes care of our first needs. When you know that your firsts are taken care of we have faith for all the things that follow. By putting God first and His will and ways first He adds everything we need added to us.

7. God will give us everything we need **daily** for the battle. **Matthew 6:34** (NKJV & Message) We are to take our living and our battles one day at a time. All we need is strength for the day and **hope** for tomorrow. This is what faith supplies. **Lamentations 3:22-23** Trying to figure out tomorrow when there are no direct goals or plans only adds to our worry and frustration. Even when we think we have things figured out, we should still leave everything in the hands of God. **James 4:13-15** Unbelief worries about an uncertain future. Faith is certain about the future even when details concerning the future are unclear.