(44) Live, Give, **GROW**, Go **Where is Your Faith?**

Last Night’s Airplane Ride

* Most Violent Turbulence I’ve Ever Experienced
* I was genuinely afraid…and prayed for our safety…that we would make it
* *“Where is Your Faith!?”*

**Matthew 8:23-27**

**23**Then Jesus got into the boat and started across the lake with his disciples.**24**Suddenly, a fierce storm struck the lake, with waves breaking into the boat. But Jesus was sleeping. **25**The disciples went and woke him up, shouting, “Lord, save us! We’re going to drown!” **26**Jesus responded, “Why are you afraid? You have so little faith!” Then he got up and rebuked the wind and waves, and suddenly there was a great calm. **27**The disciples were amazed. “Who is this man?” they asked. “Even the winds and waves obey him!”

**For Your Faith to Grow It Must Be Tested**

**There Are Many Challenges Ahead…**

**Not Just a Random Sermon of the Theology of Faith**
 **2018 Mission Post in Silicon Valley (most post-Christian area in the nation)…**

 There are certain challenges and dynamics that come with that…

 Learning How Not to be Afraid anymore…Learning to Testify/Witness…NTC Commitment

 Bold, Compassionate, Determined, Joyful, Believing…

**1 Peter 4:12, 19**

Dear friends, don’t be surprised at the fiery trials you are going through, as if something strange were happening to you. **13**Instead, be very glad—for these trials make you partners with Christ in his suffering…in a manner that pleases God, keep on doing what is right, and trust your lives to the God who created you, for he will never fail you.

**John 16:33**

 I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows… But take heart, because I have overcome the world.”

**For Your Faith to Grow You Must Believe God Can Do the Impossible**
“Your Faith has saved you....”

**Mark 5:34** Woman 12 Years of Bleeding (5:24-29)

And he said to her, “Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace. Your suffering is over.”

**Luke 17:19** Leper Showed Himself to the Priest (17:11-19)

And Jesus said to the man, “Stand up and go. Your faith has healed you.”

**Mark 10:52** Blind Bartimaeus who not quit asking (10:46-52)

And Jesus said to him, “Go, for your faith has healed you.” Instantly the man could see, and he followed Jesus down the road.

**Luke 7:9-10** Roman Officer “Say the Word” (7:1-10)

When Jesus heard this, he was amazed. Turning to the crowd that was following him, he said, “I tell you, I haven’t seen faith like this in all Israel!” **10**And when the officer’s friends returned to his house, they found the slave completely healed.

**For Your Faith to Grow You Must Enthusiastically Engage Your Path**

**Hebrews 11**

* **Not about what happened to them…(I don’t look at them anymore as Victims)**
* **It’s about what they intentionally chose to do** -- fully trusting a God they could not see (I look at them as **Agents, Ambassadors, Representatives, Partners** in God’s Great Plan…)

**7**It was by faith that Noah built a large boat to save his family from the flood.

**8**It was by faith that Abraham obeyed when God called him to leave home and go to another land that God would give him as his inheritance. He went without knowing where he was going. **9**And even when he reached the land God promised him, he lived there by faith—for he was like a foreigner, living in tents.

**17**It was by faith that Abraham offered Isaac as a sacrifice when God was testing him. **19**Abraham reasoned that if Isaac died, God was able to bring him back to life again.

**23**It was by faith that Moses’ parents hid him for three months when he was born. They saw that God had given them an unusual child, and they were not afraid to disobey the king’s command.

**29**It was by faith that the people of Israel went right through the Red Sea as though they were on dry ground.

**32**How much more do I need to say? It would take too long to recount the stories of the faith of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel, and all the prophets. **33**By faith these people overthrew kingdoms, ruled with justice, and received what God had promised them. They shut the mouths of lions,**34**quenched the flames of fire, and escaped death by the edge of the sword. Their weakness was turned to strength. They became strong in battle and put whole armies to flight. **35**Women received their loved ones back again from death.

But others were tortured, refusing to turn from God in order to be set free. They placed their hope in a better life after the resurrection. **36**Some were jeered at, and their backs were cut open with whips. Others were chained in prisons. **37**Some died by stoning, some were sawed in half, and others were killed with the sword. Some went about wearing skins of sheep and goats, destitute and oppressed and mistreated. **38**They were too good for this world, wandering over deserts and mountains, hiding in caves and holes in the ground. **39**All these people earned a good reputation because of their faith.

“Where is Your Faith?”

**We Landed Safely…**and by the time I was home I was complaining about shirts I left at the hotel…

**Problem with our End-Times Perspective**

 Waiting instead of Working…Forgetting Who We Are…

 Obsessed with figuring out the end....

 The One-Talent Man in Matthew 25
 The work of faith is NOW “we must work while it is day....”