

mountain moving faith: When It Will Work For Others

-by KENNETH HAGIN

(Part VII of the Series: The Seven Most Important Things You Should Know About Faith)

MARK 11:22-26

22 And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God.

23 For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain; Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.

24 Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

25 And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have aught against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.

26 But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses.

The past few months' lessons have been on: The Seven Most Important Things About Faith. And now we come to the 7th point which is: Your faith will always work for you in your own life-- and sometimes, not always, you can make your faith work for someone else.

Let's examine the 25th verse a little more closely. It begins with the word "Therefore." "Therefore" is a connecting word joining what He is about to say with what He has just said.

"Therefore I say unto you, What things soever you desire...." We don't say "thee" and "thou" today, we say "you." And what He is actually saying is, "What things soever you desire, when you pray, you believe that you receive them, and you shall have them."

It means all of us in general, but it is speaking specifically about you and your desires. He didn't say, "Whatsoever things your grandpa desires." He said, "What things soever you desire." He did not say "What things soever your aunt, or your uncle, or your cousin desires," but, "What things soever you desire." He didn't say "What things soever your husband or wife desires."

You see, you're not going to be able to push your desires off on somebody else. He is talking here about you and your desires. You can get your desires. But you see, if what you desire is not someone else's desire, you're not going to be

able to push your desires off on them.

Where somebody else is involved, their will comes into play on the situation. When you're praying for and with someone else, get them to agree with you. Because Jesus said in Matthew 18:19, "Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven."

And in Amos 3:3 we read, "Can two walk together, except they be agreed?"

You're not going to get somebody healed while you're believing they will live, and they're believing they'll die. There is no agreement there.

Quite often people have come to me saying, "Brother Hagin, I want you to pray with me."

"What for?" I ask.

"Well, you used the scripture in Matthew 18:19 which says, '...if two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything...' And I want you to agree with me..."

And then they tell me their prayer request. Sometimes it is for finances, sometimes for something else.

As a usual thing I will say, "All right. Let's just join hands right now and agree. Listen while I pray and you agree with it, because if we both pray at once and don't pay attention to each other you may be praying in one direction and I may be praying in another. So you just listen to what I say and agree with it."

And as in the instance of one lady who came for a financial need in her family, I pray, "Father, we agree concerning the hundred dollars this family needs by the first of next month. We agree that by the first of the month they'll have this extra hundred dollars. You said that if two of you shall agree as touching anything they ask it shall be done, so now then because we agree that it is done, we thank God that it shall be done. We thank you for it right now in the name of Jesus. Amen."

The woman said amen when I said amen. Then I looked at her and asked, "Sister, is it done?"

She tuned up and started bawling and said, "Well, I sure hope so, Brother Hagin. I hope it is."

"It isn't," I said. "You're hoping and I'm believing. There's no agreement there."

You see that is the reason many fail to receive healing when they come forward--they're hoping and we're believing, and there's no agreement. So we don't make any connection. No connection is made.

Now then, under what circumstances can you help others? First of all, as long as people are baby Christians you can carry them on your faith. Now they must be really bona fide baby Christians; new Christians. Many people are baby Christians who shouldn't be and you can't carry them.

The Bible teaches a similarity between physical growth and spiritual growth. Nobody is born physically a full grown human. They're born babies and they grow up. And nobody is born a full grown Christian. They are born babies and they're supposed to grow up.

Peter said, "As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby" (I Peter 2:2)

God wants you to grow!

Paul wrote to the church at Ephesus, "...be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine..." (Eph. 4:14) Be no longer children! And Paul wasn't writing to a children's church. We know the church had at least 12 men in it from Acts 19:7.

Paul was writing to folks who were grown physically, but he was telling them they were still children spiritually. "Be no longer children," he wrote them. He was trying to get them to grow up.

The Bible teaches a similarity between physical and spiritual growth. When a baby is first born in the natural, unless somebody carries that baby and feeds it, and dresses it, and cares for it--it will die.

I held a meeting for a fellow years ago. Bless his heart, he had a good church. They had just built a new auditorium which would seat 800 and it was full every night. And on Saturday night of the second week we were sort of debating in our minds and had almost come to a mutual agreement that we'd carry the meeting on a third week.

But on that Saturday night, when I gave the first altar call which was for people to come to be saved, 39 people came. They were stretched all the way across the building. Thirty-nine peo-

ple either saved or backsliders coming back to God!

We sent them into prayer rooms at either side of the platform with someone over the prayer room. Then we continued with the invitation for those who wanted to be filled with the Spirit, or to come to receive healing.

I had noticed particularly in the group who had come for salvation, seven young couples standing right in front of me. Young men and young women, I'd say between 28 and 32 years of age. So after the service, I asked the pastor who had been over the prayer room, "Those seven young couples, did you know them?"

"No," he answered, "I didn't know a one of them. They were strangers. They'd never been to this church before."

"Well," I said, "were they backsliders?"

"No, they were brand new. They'd never been saved. They'd never been a member of anybody's church and one or two of them had never even gone to church much. And they all got saved."

I said, "Did you get their names and addresses?"

"No," he said, "I just figure if they got anything from God they'll be back."

I said to him right then, "I'm closing the meeting tomorrow night." And I closed the meeting. I wasn't going to hold a meeting for a fellow like that.

What if someone went to the hospital and had a baby, And then in a few days they all went home and somebody asked, "Where's the baby?" "Oh, well, we figure if it's alive it'll be home in a day or two." That would make just as much sense as what this pastor had said.

Someone is going to have to see after the babies.

"Well," someone says, "let the pastor do it."

Well, he can't always. He has to see after all the old babies who have been babies for 40 years.

The spiritual nursery is full. If you got somebody saved there's no place to put them. The spiritual nursery is full and nobody else is going to get up and give them their bed, and they're not going to give them their bottle either. You take the bottle away from some of these old Christians who have been saved and filled with the Spirit for years and you've got a cry on your hands!

In the last church I pastored we had a fellow who was a business man, a contractor. His wife was a Sunday School teacher. He wasn't a Christian, yet he never missed a service; Sunday School, Sunday morning, Sunday night,

during revivals he'd come every night and bring his family.

He was in business with another man who was not a Christian either, and their business was in a bad shape. They were just about bankrupt. Finally he said to his wife, "Clara, talk to Brother Hagin. Though our business is in the red and we're just about bankrupt, I believe if we'd honor God by paying our tithes that God would honor us. Talk to Brother Hagin and see if the church would accept our tithes."

Well, of course, we did and he started bringing the tithes in on his part. In 90 days time they were out of the red and into the black and prospering. He bought his partner out.

In a short time he needed more help. He began to hire young men out of the church. And a year before he ever got saved he said to me, "I've told all my employees that I'm not going to hire anyone else unless they pay tithes. The old ones can stay with us. I wouldn't fire them, but if I hire anybody else I have a question on the questionnaire. Do you pay tithes? And I don't hire anybody who doesn't. This is a tithe-paying organization. I've proved it out. It works."

That was pretty good for a sinner, wasn't it? In the summer he hired a lot of boys in the church for laborers and helpers. We checked one month and two thirds of the support of our church came through his company or through men who were working for him. God used that man!

But he got saved one night. He came to the altar and was gloriously saved. He was about 42 or 43 at the time.

Now about two weeks later, as I was shaving one morning, the Spirit of God spoke to me. On the inside of me that inward voice said, "Before you go to town go out to (and He called the man by name)... and pray for him. He got angry on the job, lost his temper and cursed. I want you to go restore him." I knew that he had a terrible temper.

I came out and told my wife what the Spirit of the Lord had said to me and that I had to go over there because he'd lost his temper on the job and was home sick over it. She'd been talking to me about picking some things up from the grocery store but she said that could wait.

As I was putting on my tie I heard someone drive up in front. I looked out and there came his wife.

She came into the house and said, "Oh, Brother and Sister Hagin, don't tell my husband I came by here because he'll have a fit, but he got mad on the job and lost his temper. He says he doesn't remember it if he did, but some of the men said he cursed. And now he's saying he's backslidden and out and never going to church

anymore. You know he injured his back some time ago, and that back injury has come back on him. He's home in bed sick. Will you go see him?"

I told her I would.

"Well, don't tell him I came by here. Don't say a word about seeing me. I don't know what you'll tell him, but don't tell him I told you."

"Well, I've already told my wife just less than ten minutes ago that the Lord spoke to me and told me to go out there. So I can tell him the truth that the Lord sent me."

My wife said, "Yes, he'd already told me. We already knew it."

So I went out there. I went around to the side door where she'd told me to go and knocked. Someone said, "Come in."

When I opened the door and looked in, he saw who it was and he jerked the covers up over his head. He was embarrassed. Bless his heart.

Remember he was just two weeks old in the Lord at the time. You know we forget sometimes. Someone gets saved on Sunday night and we expect them to be living as good and separated and as Holy the next week as we are-- and we didn't do it our own ugly selves.

Yes, he jerked the cover up over his head. I got on my knees and I had a time doing it, but I finally managed to pull that cover off his head. And I just took that grown man, forty some odd years of age and I wasn't but 27 or 28 myself, but I took him in my arms and began to cry with him. He was crying and I just began to weep with him.

And I said, "Brother, I was shaving and the Lord spoke to me and sent me out here. We're not going to let the devil have you. You may have missed it, but we're not going to let the devil have you."

"Oh, Brother Hagin, I'm so embarrassed. I did get mad and I lost my temper. I know that. But I don't remember anything I said. I was so mad I don't know what I said. And some of the men said I cursed. If I did, I didn't mean to. But oh, I'm so embarrassed about it. I didn't know I said those things. I can't remember."

He went on, "You know I had that back injury and it seemed like I was over it pretty good, but now it has come back on me. And I'm in pain."

I laid my hand on his back and prayed, "Dear God, you love him and I know you do. I know he has failed, he has sinned, but he is ashamed of it and repented of it. Just prove to him right now that you love him and heal his back."

And I remember he looked at me just that fast, like you snapped your finger. He startled, jumped like you'd shocked him with electricity.

"It's gone! It left! It's all gone!

He was perfectly well instantly!

Then he broke down again and began to cry, "Do you mean the Lord loved me enough to heal me?"

"He loved you enough," I said, "and He has restored you."

Well he came on back to church. And I had to go out one other time about a month or so later when he got mad again, but after that I didn't have to go anymore; just twice.

But, after all, what do you expect out of just a baby. They can't do too much for themselves, somebody has to carry them. We're going to give an account unto God for what we have done with the babies who have been born into the Kingdom of God in our midst.

Yes, I had to go out a second time. And again the Lord told me the minute it happened. I went out there and restored him and never had to go anymore. After almost 30 years now, he is still working for God, on the church board, paying his tithes and living right.

But at that time, there was a deacon who lived out close to him. This deacon was sort of the head deacon. He'd always testify how he was saved 30 years ago and filled with the Spirit 30 years ago. And this 30-year-old-born-again, 30-years-filled-with-the-Spirit deacon came to me crying, "I told somebody Brother Hagin doesn't love me and that I saw him out at So-and-So's twice in the last two months and he never does come to see me."

"Yes," I said, "and I'm not coming either, you big baby. You get up in church and testify that you've been saved and filled with the Spirit for 30 years. You're 30 years old in the Lord, you don't need anybody to visit you, you ought to be out visiting others. Your neighbor is a baby Christian. He needed help. You don't need anybody to help you, you ought to be helping me take care of the babies. But instead you want to be babied yourself."

He got a little huffy about it at the time but later after he'd thought about it, he came back and thanked me. He said, "I see what you mean and you're exactly right. I'm going to get out and help you a little more. I don't need anybody to visit me, I ought to be visiting some of the babies and seeing about them."

Yes, as long as folks are really bona fide babies spiritually you can carry them with your faith and get things for them. It's the easiest thing in the world to get somebody healed who is a new Christian. And it's comparatively easy to get Christians healed who have never heard about divine healing; who haven't been taught that way. You can often make your faith work for

them. But then with people who know, or should have known, God expects a little bit more of them.

When my wife and I were first married she was a Methodist and knew nothing about divine healing. She hadn't been taught about it. We were married on November 28, 1938, and just after that over into December the first real Norther' blew in down in Texas and she took a bad throat.

She said, "I've got to go and have my throat mopped out."

In 1938, before the days of miracle drugs that's what they did.

She said, "I'll have a bad throat all winter. I do it every year. When the first real cold spell comes I get a bad throat and I have it all the winter."

Well, I thought this would be a good opportunity to start teaching her. We'd been married about a month you know. And I remembered this scripture we're using for a text.

Now sometimes people think the Bible will work for you if you have some kind of feeling. But God's Word is true when you feel like it is. It's true when you feel like it isn't. And it's just as true when you feel like it isn't--as it is when you feel like it is!

Sometimes people think you can just sort of work yourself up some way or another, and work yourself into it. Or that if you've got a certain kind of a flash, maybe a cold flash or a hot flash, it would work. But that's not so.

I didn't have a cold flash or a hot flash, or any kind of a flash, or any kind of a feeling--I just knew that Mark 11:23 is truth. It will work just like the multiplication table will work. Three times three is nine. That multiplication table will work for you regardless of how you feel. And Mark 11:23 will work for you regardless of how you feel. Don't base it on your feelings--base it on the Word!

I turned to my wife and said, "No we'll not go and have your throat mopped out. That chronic sore throat will leave you and will never come back."

It left her. All these years have come and gone and it's never come back.

But I can't do that for her today. She has to do it for herself. She learned that it works.

We took my sister's oldest daughter when she was 15 and graduated her from high school. She wasn't saved when she came to live with us but she got saved and filled with the Spirit. Then when she was about 19 or 20, she moved out on her own, and really got out of church for a little while. She fell in love with a young Baptist boy on the job where she was working and they were married. And she did have enough spunk to tell

him before they were married that she believed in speaking with tongues. And before they were married he let on like it was all right. But after the wedding he said, "The Bible says the man is the head of the house and I want to tell you something. You're not going into those tongue-talking churches. If you go anywhere you're going to my church and I want you to join it."

She's real spunky and she said, "I'm not going to do it. I've been filled with the Holy Ghost. I'm not speaking with other tongues and just in the best fellowship right now maybe, but I know what it is. And I'm not about to join your church."

That's not a good way to start a marriage, but anyway they started off like that.

She went to church with him, but didn't join. And when we'd get around them and I'd shake hands with him, he'd drop my hand like there was something wrong with me.

One Sunday morning in their Southern Baptist church in Houston, they were going to have an old-time service. The men all wore overalls and the ladies wore long dresses and bonnets like they used to wear.

They had a testimony meeting that morning. And on this Sunday morning in the oldtime service, some of the older ladies of the congregation got happy and got to shouting up and down the aisles. My niece recognized they were motivated by the same Spirit and right in that pew, she got back into fellowship with God and she got up and got to shouting, and talking in tongues up and down the aisles of that Baptist church.

Of course, her poor husband was embarrassed to death. He went to the pastor afterwards to apologize.

"I knew before we were married she was a member of one of those churches that believe in talking in tongues and I apologize for her. But I've never seen that kind of outburst from her before."

And the pastor said, "What was wrong with it?"

"Well, pastor," my nephew said, "I know that's not Baptist."

"It's in the Bible, though," the pastor said. "I thought it had been done away with. But I'll tell you something. I got my eyes opened this morning. Our folks were shouting and there was a real move of the Spirit of God here. Your wife was motivated by the same Spirit they were. The only difference was that when she began to talk in that strange language, it brought more glory down than what we had before. I sensed it. It was as though a cloud of glory went out everywhere from her, and I believe it is God. Don't you stop her. Just let her go."

After that service she said to her husband,

"I go with you every Sunday morning and I believe we ought to go to a Full Gospel Church on Sunday night." He consented and they started going.

Eventually, they were expecting their first child. Early one morning, about 5 o'clock, the phone rang. I got up about half asleep, fell over a chair or two and finally got to the phone.

When I answered, there was a woman crying and in hysterics, but I couldn't make heads or tails of what she was saying.

"Who is it?" I asked. "What is it?" And finally I recognized my sister's voice. "Oleta, quieten down. I can't understand one word you're saying. Quieten down and tell me what's the matter."

Finally, she quietened down enough to tell me that the baby was born and that the doctor had at first told her son-in-law it was dead. But the doctor came to him and said, "Sir, we thought your baby was dead, and it was, but it is alive now, however he didn't get oxygen to his brain and he wouldn't be right if he did live. However, it can't possible live, and it would be better if the family didn't see it. The baby's face is deformed and it doesn't look like a human. It would be better if you didn't always remember that and we'll just dispose of it when it does expire. It can't live."

When Oleta told me that she said, "Benny wants you to pray."

Well, I thought about this verse, and I knew Benny was new. He didn't know; they were just babies in these things. I thought about Mark 11:23, "Whosoever shall SAY...."

"Oleta, where is Benny?" I asked.

She was calling from a phone booth in the hall of the hospital.

"He's right outside the phone booth here."

"Now listen, the minute you hang up you turn to Benny and say, 'Benny, Uncle Ken said the baby will live and not die. It will be all right.'"

"Oh," she said, "do you think so?"

"No, I don't think so. I know so. I've got Jesus' Word for it."

I had to tell her again. And then I had her repeat it to me so she'd get it right.

She said, "Are you going to pray?"

"Certainly I'm not going to pray. I've already said it and that's it."

Before she hung up she said that my niece was wanting Oretha, my wife, to come. My wife had been like a second mother to her. I had a service that morning and couldn't go, so I got someone to drive her over there about 90 miles away.

My wife said that when they got there Benny and Oleta were waiting on the hospital steps.

When Benny saw her, he came running. (Now before he wouldn't have anything much to do with her.) He came running down those steps, grabbed her and hugged her, and danced around and said, "Aunt Or, Aunt Or, I'm Pentecostal-Baptist! I'm Pentecostal-Baptist! Oleta told me what Uncle Ken said and it wasn't 10 minutes after we'd hung up the phone till the nurse came running out and said, 'You can see the baby now. It's all right! While we were standing there looking at him, his face filled out like you'd blown up a balloon!'"

You ought to see that boy now. He wears a size 17 collar, and a size 48 coat. He's a great big fellow.

You can't shut Him out if you'll believe God!

I have had the greatest time demonstrating to my relatives that this works, but then I couldn't get it to work for them any more.

An uncle who wasn't even saved at the time, had his wife call my mother to get in touch with me to pray for his daughter who was in the hospital. Doctors said she was dying.

Mama got hold of me. I knew they didn't know so I told Mama to tell them when they called back that I said she would live and not die.

"Oh, son," she said, "have you heard from the Lord?"

"Yes, I sure have."

"Well, that's fine then. Praise the Lord," she said. She knew the Lord could tell you things and that He would tell me things at times.

I said, "Yes, I've heard from the Lord. She will live and not die."

"Praise the Lord," she said. "That's fine."

I said, "Yes, I heard from Him in Mark 11:23."

"Oh," she said. Her voice dropped in disappointment.

You see, people put more emphasis on some kind of manifestation than they do the Word. Don't do that! Put the emphasis on the Word! Put the Word first!

"Yes," I said, "I heard from heaven. Sure I heard from God. In Mark 11:23 Jesus said, 'Who-soever shall say....' Now you tell them, Mama."

"Do you suppose it will work, Son?" Bless her heart.

Certainly it will work. Will the multiplication table work? No one ever says, "I don't know whether or not I've got enough faith to make the multiplication work." If you'll work the multiplication table, it will work. And if you'll work this scripture, it'll work. If you'll act on this scripture, it will work.

It's the Word that does it. It's not you. You aren't going to do it. That's where a lot of people miss it. They think they're the ones who are going to have to perform it.

No, I wasn't going to heal her. God's going to do it. All I'm going to do is what the Word tells me to do.

I said to Mama, "You tell them I said she will live and not die. She'll be all right."

"Well, I sure hope so."

"Mama, you tell them exactly what I told you now. Will you do it? Repeat it for me now so I'll know you've got it right."

She repeated it for me.

I went my way and my mind kept saying to me, "You've put yourself out on a limb. They're all going to find out what a fake you are now."

Does the devil ever talk to you like that?

"You've really played whaley now. And here all these folks are going to find out all this faith business you've been teaching all these years--there's nothing to it. And they're going to find out what a fake you are. You know that's not going to work."

But I just didn't pay any attention to my head. Praise God, the first person I could get to, I started talking to them about what Mark 11:23 says and how it works.

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I learned later that about 10 minutes after Mama told them what I had said, that as the girl lay in intensive care with three doctors around her, (and the head surgeon saying she'd never come out of it) she suddenly opened her eyes and was all right. Perfectly all right!

I knew she would be all the time, because Mark 11:23 said so.

With my folks for years, I'd make that work in every family and bring the supernatural to them. But then I could never do it again. You see, they had concrete evidence that it worked. They'd come back to me next time, but I couldn't carry them on my faith. God expected the next time for them to do a little bit; at least to agree with me.

You can't always make it work for others. It's not right for you to carry people spiritually all their lives any more than it is right for you to carry people naturally. It's not right for parents to carry their children all their lives. There comes a day when they have to get out on their own. There comes a day when God says "You put that big young'un down, and let him walk."

