

**DO YOU REALLY UNDERSTAND FAITH?**  
**PT 12 - FAITH THAT ISN'T FAITH**

**Matthew 4:4...Luke 6:46-49...Ephesians 2:19-20** You cannot base your faith walk on what others have accomplished or done or on the decisions they have made. You cannot live by their testimonies; your life must become an individualized testimony of your own faith walk. God's Word, not the words of others, must be the standard for your faith life. You cannot live on their success stories, for your success story has already been recorded in scripture as God's promises. God's will for you will never be identical to His will for someone else; thus, you cannot base what you do on what others did.

**2 Corinthians 8:9...2 Corinthians 9:8...Philippians 4:19** Government welfare and assistance programs train people to live in a way that results in no ambition, no goals, no responsibility, no desire for betterment and, in a covert manner, to turn away from trusting God. A Christian who is truly pressing deeper into God cannot in any way, shape or form remain happy and satisfied living continually on government welfare programs. (*NOTE: This is not about those battling physical infirmities; it is about the able-bodied, 2 Thessalonians 3:6-16*)

Government assistance is supposed to be a temporary fix until the individual gets back on his feet. If you're in a place of financial difficulty, use those programs. What is the difference between receiving financial help from the government and receiving financial help from your church? A limited number of people are giving to your church, but tens of millions of people are giving into the government programs - it's called taxes.

It is a very small percentage of churches that are in a place financially to render sufficient help to people in their congregation. Does that mean those people are to remain homeless or without food or without proper utilities or without other necessities? Do you not realize that nearly all of My children are giving more to the government than they are to their church? Did not My Son say to render unto Caesar that which is Caesar's? Do you not realize that by paying taxes, your brothers and sisters in Christ are helping to fund a system that can help you during difficult times? Furthermore, what about all the taxes you have paid to the government; could that not be viewed as you laying up money in store for a time when you might face adversity?

How long are you willing to allow yourself and your family to struggle and go without? Receiving assistance from government programs during a season of difficulty is not wrong. When it becomes wrong is when you make the government your god. The more the government becomes your god is the less you trust Me; the less you trust Me is the more you yield your life to your government instead of Me. Take advantage of what is available to you, but do not become dependent on what your government can do; grow in your faith and learn how to become more and more dependent on Me, your God and your Father.

**Psalm 103:1-3...Psalm 107:20...Matthew 8:14-17...1 Peter 2:24...Hebrews 13:8** How long are you willing to suffer before going to a doctor? Luke was a physician and he traveled with Paul. Do you honestly believe that he never once gave a medical diagnosis concerning what someone might be facing? Do you honestly think Paul told him to never comment on a person's physical circumstances?

Faith is the path into My healing, but that path is paved with My Word. If you have not developed enough faith to receive the manifestation of healing, why do you think it is wrong to go to a doctor? Many of My children have taught and believed that going to a doctor indicates a lack of faith. I would have you know that a lack of faith is common to **ALL** of My children. None of you were born again with fully developed faith. This is why I said in My Word that faith comes by hearing My Word and that you build yourself up on faith by praying in the Spirit.

Yes, My Son paid the price for your healing and healing is one of the benefits of your salvation. But nowhere in My Word - again I say **NOWHERE** in My Word - have I indicated that it is wrong to go to a doctor. As you develop more faith you will see healing manifest quicker in your body, but simply refusing to go to a doctor is not proof of great faith. Do you honestly believe that I, as your Father, am not heartbroken to see you, My children, suffering physically? Why would I not want you to experience relief as you are developing more and more faith?

Tell Me, those of you believe it demonstrates a lack of faith by going to a doctor: If you are lying unconscious as a result of something like a car accident or heart attack, do you want other Christians to try and wake you up then stand around you and tell you to trust God, or would you like them get you to a hospital? Would you want them to do nothing but lay hands on you, pray and confess My Word; or, would you like them to do all of those things plus get you to a hospital? I know what your answer will be.

Too many of My children live by a double-standard when it comes to healing: they stress trusting Me for healing and avoiding doctors; but if the situation is bad enough, they go to a doctor. Is that not hypocritical? If it is wrong to go to a doctor, then it is wrong no matter what has happened. Do not misinterpret stubbornness as faith.

Satan has sown lies into My church and convinced many of My children that they are hypocrites if they go to a doctor. But the greatest hypocrisy is to believe you have great faith when you have not spent the time needed to develop great faith. You need to know that the lies of the enemy concerning faith and healing have led to the premature death of many of My children. Do not accept his lies.

Doctors and medicine can be of great help to you, but you are not to become totally dependent on either. Develop your faith and you will find yourself automatically transferring more and more dependence on Me and My Word for healing, and you will also see results. But you must develop your faith for this to be so.