

HOW FAITH WORKS

How do we know when we are "faithing" our way ahead? A simple illustration: A turtle never gets ahead unless and until it sticks its neck out! Faith is getting out of our self-centered shell, looking up, claiming God's promises, trusting God to fulfill His promises and believing Him to make a way for us.

2 Cor 5:7 says, "*For we walk by faith, not by sight.*" That means that God waits upon us to "make the first move" before He responds. The Faith Life requires that we take the initiative and then God responds to our faith action. Examples:

- Noah had to build an ark before the floods came;
- The Israelites had to step into the flooded Jordan River before God could stop its flow;
- They had to march around the fortress city of Jericho before God would destroy their enemies;
- Jesus' disciples had to leave their fishing boats before they could become fishers of men (Matthew 4:18-20).

The reason why? Faith positions us to receive what God's grace wants to give.

- You have to open the envelope to read your mail;
- You must trust a surgeon before he can operate to save your life;
- You must put the key into the ignition before you can start your car.

Faith is opening the envelope of God's promises, trusting the Great Physician and faith is the key that starts the engine of God's grace moving us along the highway of life.

Even God cannot lead where we will not to follow. He cannot make our lives joyful and significant unless we give them to him. So the option is simple: God is calling us to temporarily leave our present comfort zone and to get into His Comforter zone – the Holy Spirit's zone. And the time will come when we will realize that it would have been "faithless" not to have done so.

Pressing On The Upward Way!

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