Faith Fight Podcast - God Can Use Your Little

Little is much in God's hands. As Christians we need to remember that us plus God equals a majority. If there is something that you are praying for just remember the God doesn't need much to do amazing things. There are a lot of examples through the bible of God performing miracles with little. We are going to go over this today so that you can see that even if you don't have much, or if you think you are small and insignificant, God can still do great things through you and answer your prayers.

Before we get into this episode, I want to let you know about two books that have been impactful in my life.

- The first book is **Good to Great in God's Eyes by Chip Ingram.** This book will greatly help you know who you are in Christ, is very practical and easy to understanding.
- The second book is <u>Understanding the Purpose and Power of Men by Dr. Myles Monroe</u>. This book is for men and will help you grow up spiritually. I highly recommend it.

You can purchase them from amazon and input the links in the description of this episode. You can also read a preview for the books or the reviews if you like. I assure you they will be a blessing to you.

Let's get into this episode.

"Who dares despise the day of small things, since the seven eyes of the Lord that range throughout the earth will rejoice when they see the chosen capstone in the hand of Zerubbabel?" - **Zech 4:10**

What you do for God may seem small and insignificant at the time, but God rejoices in what is right, not necessarily what is big. Be faithful in the small opportunities. Begin where you are and do what you can and leave the results up to God.

The seventh time the servant reported, "A cloud as small as a man's hand is rising from the sea." So Elijah said, "Go and tell Ahab, 'Hitch up your chariot and go down before the rain stops you." - 1 Kings 18:43-45

Elijah was praying for rain and when his servant saw a small sign that God has answered his prayer, Elijah boldly instructed him to tell King Ahab that heavy rain was going to fall. Ensure that you operate at this level of faith when you are praying for anything. Keep praying and when you see a small sign that God is moving on your behalf know that the answer is coming.

And he directed the people to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people. They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. The number of those who ate was about five thousand men, besides women and children. - **Matthew 14:19-21**

Jesus multiplied five loaves and two fish to feed over 5000. What he was originally given seemed insufficient but in his hands it became more than enough. We often feel like our contribution to Jesus is meaner, but he can use and multiply whatever we give him, whether it's talent, time, or treasure. It is when we give them to Jesus that our resources are multiplied.

Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents. Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on." - Mark 12:41-44

In the Lord's eyes, this poor widow gave more than all the others put together, though her gift was by far the smallest. Remember that the value of a gift is not determined by its amount, but by the spirit in which it is given.

"Pardon me, my lord," Gideon replied, "but how can I save Israel? My clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my family." - Judges 6:14-16

God told Gideon that he will be with him and promised to give him the strength he needed to overcome opposition. In spite of this clear promise for strength, Gideon made excuses. Seeing only his limitations and weaknesses, he failed to see how God could work through Him. Don't spend time making excused, instead spend time doing what God wants.

But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. - 1 Corinthians 1:27

Christianity is not against rational thinking. Christians do believe in using their minds to weigh in the evidence and make wise choices. Often times God will use anything that may seem foolish to prove a bigger point or cause a bigger result.

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. - Isaiah 55:8-9

The people of Israel were foolish to act as if they knew what God was thinking and planning. His knowledge and wisdom is far greater than man's. We must strive to fit our plans, ideas, and thoughts into Gods.

Gideon arrived just as a man was telling a friend his dream. "I had a dream," he was saying. "A round loaf of barley bread came tumbling into the Midianite camp. It struck the tent with such force that the tent overturned and collapsed." His friend responded, "This can be nothing other than the sword of Gideon son of Joash, the Israelite. God has given the Midianites and the whole camp into his hands." - Judges 7:13-14

An army solder dreamed of a loaf of barley bread tumbling into the camp. Barley grain was only half the value of wheat and the bread made from it was considered inferior. In the same way Israel's tiny band of men was considered inferior to the vast forces of Midian and Amalek. But God would make the underdog Israelites seem invincible. The total number of Gideon's army was only 300 men.

When the trumpets sounded, the army shouted, and at the sound of the trumpet, when the men gave a loud shout, the wall collapsed; so everyone charged straight in, and they took the city. They devoted the city to the Lord and destroyed with the sword every living thing in it—men and women, young and old, cattle, sheep and donkeys. - Joshua 6:20-21

Trumpets, shouting and marching. Who would think that these actions can bring down a wall and allow Joshua and the People of Israel to take a fortified city? If God is with you this is possible. This is just another example of what can be done when God is on your side. Follow his instructions and watch the walls around your promise and the answers to your prayers come down.

Weekly Prayer Plan - God Can Use Your Little

How to Use this Template:

Download and save this document to begin using at the beginning (Monday) of every week. Every Week will have different bible verses to meditate on based on the Faith Fight Podcast episode topic for that week. Determine the time and place that you will devote to prayer. The below structure is set for one hour and is only used as a guide. You can adjust your timing if necessary.

Time:	 	_
Place:		

5 min – Drawing Near To God

5 min - Confession

10 min - God-Centered Petitions

10 min - Intercessory Prayer

10 min – Personal Petitions

15 min – Meditation

5 min - Praise, Thanksgiving & Closing

1. <u>DRAWING NEAR TO GOD</u> - Matt. 6:9 "This, then, is how you should pray: "'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name"

God the Father is the focus of all our prayers. We should never forget what a privilege it is to bend our knees on earth and reach almighty God in heaven.

2. CONFESSION - Matt. 6:12 "Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us"

When we repent and forgive others, we maintain fellowship with God. But if we hold grudges, that fellowship is broken. God loves to answer our prayers when the lines of communication are not disrupted.

3. **GOD CENTERED PETITIONS** Matt 6:10 "Your kingdom come. Your will be done, On earth as it is in heaven."

Prayer should reflect a desire to align ourselves with God's goals and purposes, not to get Him to follow our plans.

4. PERSONAL PETITIONS Matt 6:11 "Give us today our daily bread."

We are dependent upon the Lord for our needs and He wants us to come to Him with our requests.

5. <u>MEDITATION</u> Joshua 1:8 "Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful."

Meditation is thinking about the word of God to understand what it means in the context of the scripture and how it can apply to your life today. The Word of God is powerful enough to still be relevant in your life today even though it was written thousands of years ago.

Read through the scripture passages for today as listed below:

Meditational Verses

Monday: Matthew 14:13-21

Tuesday: Zechariah 4

Wednesday: 1 Corinthians 1

Thursday: Judges 6 Friday: Judges 7

Saturday: Mark 12:41-44

Sunday: Joshua 6

Once you have read the scripture for today, write down your answer to the questions below or any other insight/revelation that you receive in your prayer journal.

- 1. Is there a promise to claim?
- 2. Is there a lesson to learn?
- 3. Is there a blessing to enjoy?
- 4. Is there a command to obey?
- 5. Is there a sin to avoid?
- 6. Is there a new thought to carry with me?
- **6. PRAISE & THANKSGIVING 1 John 5:14-15** "This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us— whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him."

We can end our prayer time with confidence that God has heard our prayer and will answer in His perfect timing. Demonstrate your faith in Him by showing thanks before you see the answer to your prayers.