

Walking in the footsteps of faith!

Romans 4:12-21

Romans 4 verse 12 talks about Abraham's footsteps of faith.

1. God spoke to Abraham: I have made you a father of many nations (verse 17). From God's point of view, this was already the case. From Abraham's point of view it was not, since Abraham and Sarah were childless and too old to have a baby. **God calls those things which do not exist as though they did.** From God's point of view I am already healed, already righteous, already blessed. Abraham believed that what God says IS. If God says it, then that is how it is, irrespective of whether my five senses agree. There is the voice of our bodies – feelings! There is the voice of our minds – reason. There is the voice of God – the word. God's word is the highest authority and we should put his word above our feelings and our reasoning. God has not promised that he will heal us. He has said that we have been healed through Jesus' stripes. Abraham believed that he was what God said – a father – long before he held his son in his hands. What you can see does not need any faith, because faith is being convinced of things you cannot see. First comes faith, then sight.

2. Faith means that I imitate God. I talk like him. I act like him. Children copy their parents. If God says it, then I say the same. What he says, I say too. What he does, I do too. If he says I am healed, then I also say that I am healed. I call those things which do not exist as though they did. In this way I change the status quo. Let the weak say: I am weak? No! Then I would confirm the status quo. The weak say: I am strong! The sick say: I am healed! The poor say: I am rich! But is it not a lie if I speak like that? No, because God has spoken so that we can speak! I am only saying what God says! And God cannot lie, so I am not lying! I am speaking in agreement with God's word. God said: "Light" in the face of darkness! We would probably have said: "It's really dark out there" and nothing would have changed. Your mouth will get you from A to B. Your mouth changes your circumstances. God gave Abram a new name: Abraham = father of many nations. And from then on Abraham called himself as God called him.

3. Abraham did not take the circumstances into account! He did not look at his "dead" body and at Sarah's womb that had already died. He did not listen to the voice of feelings or the voice of reason, but rather looked at God's word only and spoke only what God said. He did not grow weak in faith. If we listen to other voices and take the circumstances into account, we will be weak in faith. What God says IS, even if my mind and my feelings say something different. Faith made Abraham and Sarah young again and they had a son. The Israelites needed to look at the snake that had been lifted up, not at the snakes on the ground or the snake bite on their legs. The Bible says we should look at Jesus, the originator and perfecter of our faith. On the cross he carried my sicknesses and I got his health. On the cross he carried my sin and I got his righteousness. On the cross he carried the curse and I got the blessing.

4. Abraham did not doubt through unbelief but became strong in faith, giving glory to God. When Jehoshaphat and his army started out with singing and praising, God intervened and they got the victory. "He who offers a sacrifice of thanksgiving honors Me; and to him who sets his way properly I will show the salvation of God", it says in Psalm 50:23. Abraham thanked God and gave him glory, long before he held Isaac in his hands.

5. Abraham was completely convinced that what God had said was how it was, and even if he were to sacrifice his son Isaac, God would have to raise him from the dead because God cannot lie.

World Wide Evangelism

Postfach 500231
60392 Frankfurt am Main
Tel. 06186 9143727
info@wwevangel.org
www.wwevangel.org

FreiKirchen Bank
IBAN: DE60 5009 2100 0001 7808 08
BIC: GENODE51BH2

