



GOD CAN
turn it
AROUND



by
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Every believer I know has some problem in life they want God to fix. Some of those problems are big and some are small, but almost everyone is dealing with something. That's just the way it is in this fallen world. Even for those of us who are faith people, there's always a challenge to overcome. There's a mountain of some kind looming large in front of us.

Each time another one crops up, the devil tries to use it to discourage us. "This time you're facing the impossible," he says. "This time the problem is going to defeat you. No matter how much you try to believe God, this mountain is *not* going to move."

The devil, however, is a liar.

The truth is, we can speak to the mountain by faith, tell it to be removed, and it will obey us (Mark 11:23).

As believers we don't have to let the devil—or our natural circumstances either, for that matter—dictate what can happen for us. We're born-again children of the Most High God. We have on our side the One for whom "all things are possible..." (Matthew 19:26) and His power is unlimited. He can do the supernatural and work miracles for His people. There's nothing too hard for Him!

It doesn't matter whether it's cancer, divorce or financial

problems, God can fix anything in your life. He can turn any situation around. All He needs is for you to give Him one thing to work with—the spirit of faith!

What exactly is the spirit of faith?

It's the spirit that makes us, as God's people, "more than conquerors" in every situation (Romans 8:37). It's the attitude of heart the Apostle Paul talked about when, in the midst of one of the most trying times of his life, he wrote:

We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak. For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; while we look not at

POINTS TO GET YOU THERE:

God can fix any problem you'll ever face, as long as you give Him the spirit of faith to work with!

- 1 The spirit of faith doesn't focus on the problem—it focuses on God. 2 Corinthians 4:18
- 2 God is on your side and He can do anything. Matthew 19:26
- 3 You can always win the victory if you have faith in your heart and in your mouth. 2 Corinthians 4:13
- 4 Words of faith can move any mountain. Mark 11:23
- 5 However much Word you deposit in your heart, that's how much spirit of faith you're going to have. Romans 10:17



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the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal (2 Corinthians 4:13, 16-18).

That's a perfect description of how the spirit of faith operates! It doesn't look at what's going on in the natural. It doesn't focus on temporal things, like circumstances, symptoms and earthly conditions. The spirit of faith looks into the eternal face of God. It looks to His unchanging Word. Instead of listening to what the mountain has to say, the spirit of faith talks to the mountain and tells it what God said. It says to cancer, "You can't kill me! I'm healed by the stripes of Jesus" (1 Peter 2:24). It says to that pile of debt and those stacks of unpaid bills, "My God meets all my needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus! The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want!" (Philippians 4:19; Psalm 23:1).

Rather than letting circumstances get the upper hand, the spirit of faith causes you to take authority over the environment around you. It gets you out of bed in the morning and puts you to bed at night talking the Word of God.

When you're walking in the spirit of faith, the mountains in your life can't get a word in edgewise because you're saying all day long, "Mountain, you be removed, in Jesus' Name. I am well. I am prosperous. I am victorious. I am a joint heir with Jesus and I'm walking in THE BLESSING of God! Jesus Himself redeemed me from the curse!"

Be a Spiritual Body Builder

"Well, I'd like to have that kind of attitude," you might say, "but for some reason it's a real struggle for me. Even though I try very hard to think and speak positively, when things in my life get bad, I can't seem to do it."

That's because the spirit of faith is more than just positive thinking. It's more than the result of making a mental decision and exerting your willpower. The spirit of faith is a force. It's one of the "springs of life" (Proverbs 4:23, *Amplified Bible, Classic Edition*) that flows out of your heart, your inner man.

When you put the Word of God in your heart, that force of faith grows stronger. Your “inward man,” as Paul said, “is renewed day by day” (2 Corinthians 4:16). When you neglect to put the Word in your heart, the opposite happens. The outflow of faith from your spirit man gets weaker and weaker.

Think about how your physical man functions and you can see what I mean. When you feed your body regularly on good, healthy food it produces strength. When you fail to feed it and work out, your muscles diminish and you can’t do very much.

Professional body builders feed their bodies extraordinary amounts. They might eat a dozen eggs and 60 ounces of meat in a single day. Why? Because they want to develop extraordinary strength and they know that (in addition to pumping iron, of course) that’s what it takes.

Much the same principle applies in your life as a believer. You can go on an 800-calorie Word diet if you want and you’ll deteriorate to the point where spiritually you can’t do very much. Or, you can become a spiritual body builder by feeding on God’s Word all the time.

You never have to worry about overindulging on the Word! Unlike natural food, it can be consumed in mass quantities without any downside. You can take in all you want and your spirit will just keep assimilating it. Your inner man will just keep getting stronger and stronger, and the words of your mouth will keep getting bolder and more confident.

Remember: “Faith cometh by hearing...the word of God” (Romans 10:17) and words of faith are what move mountains (Mark 11:23). So if you get enough of the Word you can move as many mountains as you want. It doesn’t matter whether they’re big or little, they’ll have to do what you say. As long as you have faith in two places—in your heart and in your mouth—if you tell those mountains to be removed, they have to go.

“But I just don’t have that kind of faith,” you might argue.

THE SPIRIT OF FAITH IS MORE THAN JUST POSITIVE THINKING. IT’S MORE THAN THE RESULT OF MAKING A MENTAL DECISION AND EXERTING YOUR WILLPOWER.

The spirit of faith is a force.

Sure you do. God gives all of us “the measure of faith” (Romans 12:3) the moment we’re born again. So you have the same kind of faith every other believer has. You have *the* measure of the God kind of faith.

What you do with that measure of faith is up to you. You can either let it lie dormant, or you can choose to increase it. The decision is yours. However much Word you deposit in your heart and act on, that’s how much spirit of faith you’re going to have.

Personally, I like to make big Word deposits. I like to keep the Word inside me in abundance. That way I know I won’t run short of faith when I’m confronted with some seemingly impossible challenge. I won’t find myself struggling to believe God because I’m facing a mountain that’s bigger than the amount of Word I have in my heart.

I don’t ever want to be in that position! I don’t ever want to have to do spiritually what I had to do naturally years ago when Ken and I were broke and covered up with debt. Back then we had so little money that when I went grocery shopping, I had to wonder how much I could afford to buy. I used to have to pray in tongues as I walked up and down the aisles and believe God that I’d be able to

pay for what I put in my basket.

That’s not very enjoyable! It’s more fun to grocery shop with plenty of money in the bank. It’s better to be able to fill up the cart knowing for sure that when you get to the checkout counter you can pay the bill with ease.

That’s how you want to be spiritually!

You want to have enough of God’s Word deposited within you to pay off any bill the devil tries to send you. You want your heart and your mouth to be filled with so much faith that you know, by the power of God, you can triumph over any trouble, any time.

Just Like Abraham and Caleb

If you want to see someone who walked in that kind of faith, read in the Bible about Abraham. He’s a wonderful example! He stood in the face of the impossible and believed God’s promise that his descendants would be like the sands of the sea and the stars in the sky. He called himself the *father of many nations* when he and his wife were old and wrinkled, still childless, and his wife had been barren all her life.

Talk about being confronted with a mountain! In the natural Abraham’s situation looked absolutely hopeless. Yet, he was so confident God would

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Kenneth Copeland

July 24-28
The Last Great Awakening
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Sun., July 30
Love Speaks
Kenneth Copeland

turn it around that he called things "... which be not as though they were. And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sarah's womb: He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; and being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform" (Romans 4:17, 19-21).

Other people might have made fun of Abraham's faith in God but in the end it paid off. The mountain moved and God did what He'd promised. He turned around the barren condition in Sarah's body and renewed her and Abraham's youth. They had a baby and their descendants have been multiplying ever since.

If you want to see another scriptural example of the spirit of faith, read about the life of Caleb. One of Abraham's descendants, he was among the 12 Israelites sent in by Moses to spy out the Promised Land. You probably remember the story.

Caleb returned from Canaan with the other spies and gave the people of Israel a good news/bad news report. The good news was the land God had promised them flowed with milk and honey. It was a land so fertile that grapes grew so large, one cluster was carried on a pole between two men! The bad news was it was fortified with walled cities and inhabited by fierce enemies—the Amalekites, the Hittites, the Jebusites and the Amorites.

That's the way things always go. When it comes to receiving the fulfillment of God's promises, there are always enemies arrayed against us. There are always "ites" of some kind trying to keep us out of our land. When we come up against them, we must choose either to go with faith or go with unbelief.

Ten of the Israelite spies chose the latter. They decided the giants in Canaan were too big to be beaten. "The inhabitants of that land will devour us," they said. "We're as small as grasshoppers in their eyes!"

Caleb, however, saw the situation differently. He wasn't looking at the giants. He was focused on God and His Word, so he said, "Let us go up at once, and possess [this land]; for we are well able to overcome it. Only rebel not ye against the Lord, neither fear ye the people of the land; for they are bread for us: their defence is departed from them, and the Lord is with us: fear them not" (Numbers 13:30, 14:9).

Moses and Joshua agreed with Caleb. But the rest of the Israelites didn't. They kept looking at things in the natural. They got stuck in unbelief, so God sent them into the wilderness and said: "Because all those men which have seen my glory, and my miracles, which I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and have... not hearkened to my voice; they shall not see the land which I swear unto their fathers...but my servant Caleb, because he had another spirit with him, and hath followed me fully, him will I bring into the land whereinto he went; and his seed shall possess it" (verses 22-24).

Sure enough, 45 years later what God had said about Caleb came to pass. He went into the Promised Land with a new generation of Israelites, still believing God and saying: "I am as strong this day as I was in the day that Moses sent me: as my strength was then, even so is my strength now.... Therefore give me this mountain [where the Anakim are and the cities are great and fenced]...then I shall be able to drive them out, as the Lord said. And Joshua blessed him, and gave unto Caleb the son of Jephunneh Hebron for an inheritance" (Joshua 14:11-13).

Think about that! After 45 years of waiting, Caleb was still speaking by the spirit of faith. He was still believing God would turn things around in his life. As a result, at 85 years old he was defeating giants and taking mountains.

If Caleb could do that, we can too. So, let's follow his example. Let's fill our hearts and our mouths with the Word and take whatever mountain we happen to be facing. Let's say to that mountain, "Move!" and believe for the God of miracles to do the impossible in our lives. 🙏

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