

Growing In Faith



Kim Taylor

Now the next day, when they had come out from Bethany, He was hungry. And seeing from afar a fig tree having leaves, He went to see if perhaps He would find something on it. When He came to it, He found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs. In response Jesus said to it, "Let no one eat fruit from you ever again."

And His disciples heard it.

Mark 11:12-14

Now in the morning, as they passed by, they saw the fig tree dried up from the roots. And Peter, remembering, said to Him, "Rabbi, look! The fig tree which You cursed has withered away."

So Jesus answered and said to them, "Have faith in God. For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says.

- Mark 11:20-23

A commitment to that statement alone will get you through life's obstacles and setbacks!

Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes."

- Mark 9:23

Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole ladder.

In Mark 11:22, the word FAITH comes from the Hebrew word “Emunah”. It is an action word or term.

In our Western thinking, the concept of Faith places all the action coming from the one we have Faith in, i.e., “God”.

However, the Hebrew mind-set places the Faith on the actions of the Believer.

- Charles Blondin, French acrobat and tight rope walker. Wheelbarrow ride across the Niagara Falls in 1800’s.

Important message from the story for us today;

- People are still hungry for a different fruit;
- The fruit of the Spirit
- Galatians 5:22
 - Love
 - Peace
 - Patience
 - Kindness
 - Gentleness
 - Faithfulness
 - Self-control

John 3:16—Love motivated God to send His Christ to save the world.

That same love motivated Jesus to die on the cross on our behalf. (Love got the job done).

According to the apostle Paul in his letter to the church at Corinth, love is the key (chapter 13).

