

Faith Works

Excerpts of an article by Norman Vincent Peale

William James, the famous psychologist, said, "Our belief at the beginning of a doubtful undertaking is the one thing [now get that—*the one thing*] that ensures the successful outcome of our venture."

A famous trapeze artist was instructing his students how to perform on the high trapeze bar. One student froze completely. He had a terrifying vision of falling to the ground. He couldn't move a muscle, so deep was his fright. "I can't do it!" he gasped.

The instructor put his

arm around the boy's shoulder and said, "Son, you can do it, and I will tell you how." Then he made one of the wisest remarks I have ever heard. He said, "Throw your heart over the bar and your body will follow."

Copy that sentence. Write it down and put it in your pocket. Better still, write it on your mind. It's packed with power, that sentence. "Throw your heart over the bar and your body will follow."

You can overcome any obstacle and achieve the most tremendous things by faith power. How do you develop faith power? Saturate your mind with the great words of the Bible. Spend one hour a day reading the Bible and committing its great passages to memory, allowing them to recondition your personality, and the change in your experience will be miraculous.

Read the New Testament. Select a dozen of the strong statements about faith, and memorize each one. Say them over and over, especially just before going to sleep. In time they will modify your thought patterns. This process will change you into a believer, into an expecter, and thus you will become an achiever. You will have new power to get what God and you decide you really want

from life.

The Bible emphasizes how a person can make something of himself. Belief, positive thinking, faith in God, and faith in other people, in yourself, in life—this is the essence of the technique it teaches. "If you can believe," it says, "all things are possible" (Mark 9:23). "If you have faith ... nothing shall be impossible unto you" (Matthew 17:20). "According to your faith be it unto you" (Matthew 9:29). Believe! Believe! In this advice, the Bible drives home the truth that faith moves mountains.

Faith is to believe what we do not see, and the reward of this faith is to see what we believe.

—St. Augustine (354–430 AD)

If you believe you can, you probably can. If you believe you won't, you most assuredly won't. Belief is the ignition switch that gets you off the launching pad.—*Denis Waitley, b. 1933, American author, speaker, trainer, peak performance expert*

FAITH IS...

...believing in the unseeable.

Faith is tranquil when it's very stormy.

Faith is not passive; it acts out what it believes!

Faith is asking for what you need.

Faith is hearing the inaudible, seeing the invisible, believing the incredible, and receiving the impossible.

Faith is completely contrary to natural expectation and natural conditions!

Faith is creating a vacuum in your heart for God to fill.

Faith is not only believing that God *can*, but that God *will*!

Faith is not surprised at the answer. Faith expected it to happen.

—*David Brandt Berg*