

God's Supernatural Faith

Lesson 13 – Teacher's Guide

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1. In our spirits, we have the complete measure of faith. We don't need more faith from God, because we already have all we'll ever need. Our faith isn't small, immature, or in the process of growing; it's already as perfect and complete as the faith of Jesus. We just need to renew our minds and learn to release it.
2. The way we were born again is the way we receive everything in the Christian life—by grace through faith (Eph. 2:8-9). Salvation is everything God provided through Christ's atonement—forgiveness of sins, healing, deliverance, prosperity, joy, peace, love, etc. All these salvation benefits come the same way we were born again—by grace through faith (Col. 2:6). God not only provides the salvation we need, but He also supplies the very faith we use to appropriate His grace. Both salvation and the faith to receive it are gifts from God.
3. We can't receive salvation without hearing the Word (Rom. 10:17). God's Word contains His faith. When we receive the Word into our hearts, we're receiving God's supernatural faith. The faith we use to receive salvation is not mere human faith but God's own supernatural faith, which came to us through His Word. It's not only the faith we used to become born again, but it's the faith we use to appropriate everything in the Christian life.

1. A. Where do we have the complete measure of faith? (In our spirits)
B. Is our faith small, immature, or in the process of growing? (No, it's already as perfect and complete as the faith of Jesus)
C. Then why aren't we seeing better results? (We need to renew our minds and learn to release it)
2. A. According to Ephesians 2:8-9, how were we born again? (By grace through faith)
B. How, then, do we receive everything else in the Christian life? (The same way—by grace through faith)
C. What do these verses say are gifts from God? (Both salvation and the faith to receive it)
3. A. Read Romans 10:17. What must we hear in order to receive salvation? (God's Word)
B. How does God's supernatural faith come to us? (Through His Word)
C. Besides being born again, what else do we use this faith for? (Everything in the Christian life)

4. Human faith is based upon natural knowledge. It's a faith based on sense knowledge—facts. Human faith is limited to what it can see, taste, hear, smell, and feel. If the facts don't seem to support the action, we can't act contrary when we are using natural faith.
5. While human faith follows sense knowledge, supernatural faith precedes it. God acknowledges those things which aren't yet manifest as if they already are (Rom. 4:17). Natural faith can only acknowledge what it already sees, tastes, hears, smells, and feels, but supernatural faith literally brings things into manifestation from the spirit realm.
6. The same faith we used to become born again is now always present in our spirits. Faith is a fruit that stems from our spirits (Gal. 5:22-23). Faith—belief—is a product from deep within the heart, not just the mind (Rom. 10:10). As we cooperate with the laws that govern how faith works, we'll find that the faith that's already inside us is more than sufficient for any problem we'll ever face.

4. A. What do we call faith that is based upon natural, sense knowledge? (Human faith)
B. Can this kind of faith act contrary to the facts—what it can see, taste, hear, smell, and feel? (No)
5. A. According to Romans 4:17, God does what? (He acknowledges those things that aren't yet manifest as if they already are)
B. What does supernatural faith do to things in the spirit realm? (It literally brings them into manifestation)
6. A. What does Galatians 5:22-23 reveal about faith? (It's a fruit that stems from our born-again spirits)
B. According to Romans 10:10, does faith proceed out of our hearts or our minds? (Hearts)

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In your spirit, you have the complete measure of faith. You don't need more faith from God, because you already have all you'll ever need. Your faith isn't small, immature, or in the process of growing; it's already as perfect and complete as the faith of Jesus. You just need to renew your mind and learn to release it!

When I first became serious about God, I started hungering to see in my life what I saw in the lives of Bible characters. When I read things in the Word, I knew they weren't just for the people back then. Even though I hadn't seen any of those things manifest prior to that time, I knew in my heart they were for me now too. Since faith is what releases the supernatural ability of God, I began a quest to start operating in His kind of faith.

Of course, I misunderstood a number of things at first. I thought faith was something to be obtained. I believed that I had to do things after being saved in order to make God give me more faith. Because of this, I felt my faith was inadequate every time I came up against a problem. I just embraced such recurring thoughts as *Faith works, but I just don't have enough of it* and *What I've got is too puny!* That was my attitude. However, through this revelation of spirit, soul, and body, the Lord cleared up my misunderstandings about faith and revolutionized my life and ministry!

Faith Was a Gift Too!

Sometimes a passage of Scripture becomes so familiar that you can only see one application of it. Unless you allow the Holy Spirit to shine additional light on that part of His Word, you'll be stuck with only the understanding you already have. I'm not suggesting reading something into God's Word that isn't there, but I am recommending that you stay humble before your Teacher—the Holy Spirit—as we take a closer look at some very familiar scriptures (John 14:26).

The way you were born again is the way you receive everything in the Christian life—by grace through faith.

“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast” (Eph. 2:8-9).

Salvation is everything God provided through Christ's atonement; it's not just when you first walk through God's door by receiving forgiveness of sins and a brand-new spirit. Salvation is everything in His house as well—healing, deliverance, prosperity, joy, peace, love, anything you receive from Him. All these salvation benefits come the same way you were born again—by grace through faith!

Colossians 2:6 agrees, declaring:

“As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him.”

How did you receive Christ? By grace through faith. How, then, do you walk in Him and enjoy all the benefits of His salvation package? By grace through faith!

Many people interpret Ephesians 2:8 too narrowly by limiting the word “**saved**” to mean only the initial born-again experience. However, the Greek word for salvation here is “sozo,” which includes every aspect of salvation. Therefore, Ephesians 2:8 really says:

“For by grace are ye saved [sozo—forgiven of sins, born again, made righteous, healed, delivered, prospered, etc.] through faith” (rendering mine).

Others miss the fact that it’s not only salvation that is “**not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast**” (Eph. 2:8-9); it’s also faith as well. God not only provides the salvation you need, but He also supplies the very faith you use to appropriate His grace! Both salvation and the faith to receive it are gifts from God!

God’s Word Contains His Faith

You can’t receive salvation without hearing the Word.

“So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Rom. 10:17).

You might not hear it quoted chapter and verse, but the truths and concepts that are in God’s Word must come across your path somehow. You need to know that Jesus died for your sins and because of His love, He offers forgiveness independent of your actions. His only demand is that you believe.

Faith comes through hearing the Word. How? God’s Word contains His faith. When you receive the Word into your heart, you’re receiving God’s supernatural faith. You must hear the Word because that’s how you believe and receive.

God put His faith in His words. When those words are preached, they contain faith. If you will open up your heart, that faith will enter in and produce salvation (1 Pet. 1:23-25). The faith you use to receive salvation is not mere human faith but God’s own supernatural faith, which came to you through His Word.

It’s important to know whether your faith is natural or supernatural. If you believe that your faith is just human faith, the devil will be able to convince you that it’s not very good. He’ll tell you it’s puny, weak, frail, and small in amount and strength. But when you understand that the faith you’re using is God’s supernatural faith, which was imparted to you through His Word, your level of confidence and expectation will rise. It’s not only the faith you used to become born again, but it’s the faith you use to appropriate everything in the Christian life!

Since God’s faith is a supernatural faith, it produces supernatural results. It has the ability to do things that will take you beyond just the physical realm. If you believe you’re using just human faith for the Christian life, you’ll only be able to receive natural results. However, when you realize that it’s God’s faith you’re using, you’ll start experiencing supernatural results!

Human Faith

Human faith is based upon natural knowledge. God created mankind as faith beings. Even before being born again and separate from the influence of God, there's still a natural kind of faith. In an attempt to explain faith, this was what my church taught me while I was growing up.

Taking a chair, they'd say, "How do you know if this chair will hold you up? It takes faith to sit in it." Then they'd add, "It's faith when you drive through a green light. You must believe that the other side has a red light. You don't know it, because you can't see it, so you can't prove it. Even if the red is there, you still have to believe that the other cars will stop." And shifting to the skies, they'd say, "It's faith to ride in an airplane. You don't know how it works, and you aren't personally acquainted with the pilot. How can you be sure the mechanisms are correct and the pilot can work them?" They'd declare, "That's faith!"

It's a type of faith, but it's human faith. In other words, it's a faith based on sense knowledge—facts—things you can see, taste, hear, smell, and feel.

Whether you are conscious of it or not, the first thing you'd do before attempting to sit in the chair would be to glance over at it to see if it had all four legs. If it only had three legs and teetered like it was about to fall, you wouldn't sit in it. Whether you realize it or not, when you get ready to sit down in a chair, you inspect it. It might not be a perfect inspection, but you do gather some sense knowledge to base your action upon.

You've also been trained to know that when your side of the traffic light is green, the other side is red. You've got personal experience to base that upon because you've been on the other side waiting on the red many times before. However, for additional safety, you probably made sure nobody looked like they might speed through and run the light before you proceeded.

Human faith is limited to what it can see, taste, hear, smell, and feel. If you noticed that one of the wings was missing, you wouldn't fly on that airplane. If you saw a wreck at the intersection, you wouldn't just go right on through it, even if the light was green. If the chair looked like it would fall apart under your weight, you wouldn't try to sit in it. If the facts don't seem to support the action, you can't act contrary when you are using natural faith.

Your Faith Is Supernatural!

While human faith follows sense knowledge, supernatural faith precedes it. God demonstrated this kind of faith when He changed Abram's name to Abraham (father of many nations) before he even had a single child (Gen. 15:2-6 and 17:4-6).

"(As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were" (Rom. 4:17).

This is how God's faith operates. He acknowledges those things which aren't yet manifest as if they already are. God calls those things as if they were, even before there is any physical proof

of their existence. Natural faith can only acknowledge what it already sees, tastes, hears, smells, and feels. Supernatural faith literally brings things into manifestation from the spirit realm. Now that's a radical difference!

You used supernatural faith to become born again. It wasn't natural faith, because you were believing for things that were beyond your sense knowledge. Unless you had a vision or heard an audible voice, neither of which is the norm, you couldn't perceive spiritual truth with your natural senses. You had to believe in things you couldn't see, like: heaven and hell, God and the devil, sin and forgiveness. All these were faith issues that could not be verified or proven by mere human faith. The Holy Spirit enlightened you from within as He spoke to your heart so you could take a step of faith that wasn't based on what you could see, taste, hear, smell, or feel. Through His Word, you were given God's supernatural faith when you were born again.

The same faith you used to become born again is now always present in your spirit. It doesn't evaporate, diminish, or get old and lose its power. That supernatural faith is exactly the same in your born-again spirit as it was the very moment you were saved. You may not be experiencing that faith and all of its benefits in your body and soul, but it's there in your spirit. If you've been born again, you already have the supernatural faith of God!

Faith is a fruit that stems from your spirit.

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law” (Gal. 5:22-23, emphasis mine).

Faith—belief—is a product from deep within the heart, not just the mind.

“For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness” (Rom. 10:10).

For the born-again believer, faith has actually been put into your recreated spirit!

You don't need more faith—you just need to believe that you already have it. As Jesus is now, so are you in this world (1 John 4:17). Is Jesus in faith? Of course He is! He's operating in faith perfectly. Your born-again spirit has the faith of God in it perfectly, without lack or inadequacy. Acknowledge it! Go to God's Word and discover the laws that govern how faith works. Then, start cooperating and using them to your advantage. You'll find that the faith that's already inside you is more than sufficient for any problem you'll ever face!

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Lesson 13 – Outline

1. In your spirit, you have the complete measure of faith.
 - A. You don't need more faith from God, because you already have all you'll ever need.
 - B. Your faith isn't small, immature, or in the process of growing; it's already as perfect and complete as the faith of Jesus.
 - C. You just need to renew your mind and learn to release it.
2. The way you were born again is the way you receive everything in the Christian life—by grace through faith.

“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast” (Eph. 2:8-9).

- A. Salvation is everything God provided through Christ's atonement—forgiveness of sins, healing, deliverance, prosperity, joy, peace, love, etc.
- B. All these salvation benefits come the same way you were born again—by grace through faith.

“As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him” (Col. 2:6).

- C. God not only provides the salvation you need, but He also supplies the very faith you use to appropriate His grace.
- D. Both salvation and the faith to receive it are gifts from God.

3. You can't receive salvation without hearing the Word.

“So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Rom. 10:17).

- A. God's Word contains His faith.
- B. When you receive the Word into your heart, you're receiving God's supernatural faith.
- C. The faith you use to receive salvation is not merely a human faith but God's own supernatural faith, which came to you through His Word.
- D. It's not only the faith you used to become born again, but it's the faith you use to appropriate everything in the Christian life.

4. Human faith is based upon natural knowledge.

- A. It's a faith based on sense knowledge—facts.
 - B. Human faith is limited to what it can see, taste, hear, smell, and feel.
 - C. If the facts don't seem to support the action, you can't act contrary when you are using natural faith.
5. While human faith follows sense knowledge, supernatural faith precedes it.
- A. God acknowledges those things which aren't yet manifest as if they already are.

“(As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were” (Rom. 4:17).

- B. Natural faith can only acknowledge what it already sees, tastes, hears, smells, and feels, but supernatural faith literally brings things into manifestation from the spirit realm.
6. The same faith you used to become born again is now always present in your spirit.
- A. Faith is a fruit that stems from your spirit.

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such things there is no law” (Gal. 5:22-23, emphasis mine).

- B. Faith—belief—is a product from deep within the heart, not just the mind.

“For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness” (Rom. 10:10).

- C. As you cooperate with the laws that govern how faith works, you'll find that the faith that's already inside you is more than sufficient for any problem you'll ever face.

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Lesson 13 – Discipleship Questions

1. According to Ephesians 2:8-9, what is the gift of God?
 - A. Grace.
 - B. Salvation.
 - C. Faith.
 - D. All of the above.
 - E. None of the above.
2. How do we receive God's gift of salvation?
3. Can we do anything to earn God's gifts?
4. What does Colossians 2:6 reveal about the Christian life?
5. Putting Ephesians 2:8-9 together with Colossians 2:6, how, then, do we receive everything else in the Christian life?
6. What does Colossians 2:6 call this?
7. According to Romans 10:17, what comes by hearing the Word of God?
8. What tense is the verb "to hear" in?
 - A. Past.
 - B. Present.
 - C. Future.
9. In light of this, how do we keep our faith in the present tense today?
10. What does God's Word contain?
11. According to Romans 4:17, how does God release His faith?
12. What was Abraham's part in cooperating with God?
13. What are the fruits of the Spirit listed in Galatians 5:22-23?
14. Is there any law against such things?

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Lesson 13 – Answer Key

1. D. All of the above.
2. By grace through faith.
3. No.
4. We walk in Christ the very same way we received Him.
5. The same way we received salvation—by grace through faith.
6. Walking in Him.
7. Faith.
8. B. Present.
9. By keeping our hearts open to hearing the Word each new day.
10. His supernatural faith.
11. He calls those things that be not as though they were.
12. Abraham believed the word from God he had heard.
13. Love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance.
14. No.
15. Because these character traits are the very expression—through us—of the nature of God Himself.
16. Our hearts.

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Lesson 13 – Scriptures

“But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you” (John 14:26).

“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast” (Eph. 2:8-9).

“As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him” (Col. 2:6).

“So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Rom. 10:17).

“Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever. For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you” (1 Pet. 1:23-25).

“And Abram said, Lord GOD, what wilt thou give me, seeing I go childless, and the steward of my house is this Eliezer of Damascus? And Abram said, Behold, to me thou hast given no seed: and, lo, one born in my house is mine heir. And, behold, the word of the LORD came unto him, saying, This shall not be thine heir; but he that shall come forth out of thine own bowels shall be thine heir. And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be. And he believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness” (Gen. 15:2-6).

“As for me, behold, my covenant is with thee, and thou shalt be a father of many nations. Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy name shall be Abraham; for a father of many nations have I made thee. And I will make thee exceeding fruitful, and I will make nations of thee, and kings shall come out of thee” (Gen. 17:4-6).

“(As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were” (Rom. 4:17).

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law” (Gal. 5:22-23).

“For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation” (Rom. 10:10).

“Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world” (1 John 4:17).