

Dag Heward-Mills



How to
Make You Faith Work

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by Dag Heward-Mills

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Published by Dag Heward-Mills on Smashwords.

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Unless otherwise stated, all Scripture quotations are taken from the King James Version of the Bible

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Chapter 1

The Master Key to a Breakthrough

Now the just shall live by faith...

Hebrews 10:38

Every Christian must have faith and must exercise it! Faith is the reason for breakthroughs and miracles in our lives. Faith is the reason for answers to prayer.

Generally speaking, people who have faith are more prosperous than those who do not. I have noticed a difference between Christians who walk by faith and those who do not!

Faith people also experience disappointments, sickness and other shortcomings.

However, very generally speaking, I notice a trend of blessings, abundance and long life among those who believe for them.

Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.

Hebrews 10:38

God is saying that if you draw away from faith, He will not be pleased with you. There are those who think that faith is not so important. They tend to draw away from the faith message and faith people. They feel that there must rather be an emphasis on patience, gentleness, holiness, etc. I believe these are important, and they all play special roles in the Christian life.

This, however, does not mean we should play down on the importance of faith to the Christian life.

The fact that the heart is important to the body does not mean that the kidneys are not equally important. Both are important, and both have special roles to play.

Faith is a very special virtue which has a key role to play in every Christian's life. The Bible says that without faith it is impossible to please God.

But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

Hebrews 11:6

It is interesting to note that the Word of God does not say that without love it is impossible to please God. The Bible does not say that without peace it is impossible to please God. The Bible is very clear on this fact: **WITHOUT FAITH IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO PLEASE GOD!**

Abraham's faith in God was considered as an act of righteousness. Abraham believed that El' Shaddai was able to give him a child in his old age. Abraham had his faults. He lied about his wife and surrendered her twice to unbeliever kings for their pleasure.

In spite of his lying and cowardly behaviour, God was very pleased with Abraham because he had faith in His commandments.

Maybe by your standards, Abraham would have been disqualified. Perhaps in your opinion, Abraham was not a great guy. But he was a great man in God's sight. His greatness was as a result of his faith.

And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform. And therefore IT WAS IMPUTED TO HIM FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS.

Romans 4:21,22

Dear Christian friend, God is happy, impressed and pleased when you believe in Him. When you believe that God will heal you, you make God happy! When you believe that God will prosper you, you make God excited. When you believe that your breakthrough is on the way, God is so pleased with you. When you have faith that you will live long, God is provoked to extend your life. When you believe that God will give you increase and abundance, you excite the deep parts of El' Shaddai. You make Him pour out the milk of His blessings into your life.

I see you walking in the great blessings of Jehovah! I see you enjoying an abundant life in God! I see you free from sickness and disease! I see the power of curses broken in your life! I see that God is pleased with you because you believe in Him! From today, never doubt any part of God's Word. Accept that you are the champion He is speaking about. Flow with the message of prosperity, healing and abundance. Always remember that God is happy when you believe in Him.

God is not a God of poverty. Since I came to know the Lord I have not decreased in any way. I do not read about decrease, failure, setbacks and limitations in the Bible. I see only abundance, promotion and deliverance from my enemies. I see God lifting me up everyday! God did not bring you to Christ in order to demote and disgrace you.

He brought you to Christ to lift and establish you in an abundant life. Jesus came that we might have life and have it more abundantly (John 10:10).

Jesus Blessed the Faith People

Under the ministry of Jesus, several people experienced personal breakthroughs. Who were they? And why did they receive these miracles? You will remember what Jesus said about the woman with the issue of blood. This was a woman who had suffered for twelve years without any breakthrough. She came up to Jesus and received an extraordinary miracle. What was the secret of her breakthrough? Jesus gave the answer in Mark 5:34.

...Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole...

Mark 5:34

Blind Bartimaeus received his sight miraculously. He was a noisy fellow who disturbed the service. But Jesus took notice of him and healed him. What was his secret? His secret was faith in God. Look at what Jesus said to Bartimaeus:

...THY FAITH hath made thee whole.

Mark 10:52

The sinful woman who poured an alabaster box of ointment on Jesus' feet also received a miracle of forgiveness. Why did Jesus forgive her? Jesus said to the woman,

...THY FAITH hath saved thee; go in peace.

Luke 7:50

Ten lepers were healed and only one came back to say thank you. The one who came back was made whole. Why did this leper receive an extra blessing? Jesus said the same words to him.

...Arise, go thy way: THY FAITH hath made thee whole.

Luke 17:19

Two blind men came to Jesus and asked for the mercy of God. Jesus touched them and healed them. What makes such nice things happen to some people? What were His words to these two men?

...According to YOUR FAITH be it unto you.

Matthew 9:29

Have you noticed that Jesus never said, “Thy love hath made thee whole”? Jesus never said, “Thy holiness hath saved you.” He never said, “According to your patience, be it unto you.” Why did Jesus not say, “Thy good character hath made thee whole”?

Please do not misunderstand me! I am not saying that these virtues are not important! I am saying that it is the people’s faith that impressed Jesus.

I am showing you that Jesus pointed out over and over that it was their faith that had brought the breakthrough. That is why the Bible says that without faith it is impossible to please God. Have you ever thought of those men who broke through the roof of somebody’s house in order to bring their paralyzed friend to Christ? Perhaps they were experienced thieves who were used to breaking into people’s homes. Perhaps they were men who were used to jumping the queue and cheating others out of their rightful place.

But the Bible tells us that Jesus noticed their faith and immediately responded to their needs.

And WHEN HE SAW THEIR FAITH he said unto them, Man, thy sins are forgiven thee.

Luke 5:20

Jesus didn’t see their fault for jumping the queue or removing the tiles from somebody’s roof. He saw their faith! Jesus sees your faith! God sees your faith!

It is time for you to rise up and believe the things that are written in the Word of God. According to your faith, it shall be done unto you!

Chapter 2

Developing Real Faith

When I was a younger Christian, the concept of having faith looked far-fetched to me. After all, it seems unrealistic to command a mountain to move into the sea. Who could imagine such a thing? Even Jesus never transferred the mountains around Jerusalem to another location. Faith has always seemed like something that emotionally strung people or those who were not practical and down-to-earth got involved with. Faith people sometimes have the image of lazy Christians who are unwilling to work and just wish for good things to happen magically. However, faith is none of these!

What is Faith?

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Hebrews 11:1

Faith is the assurance of things you are hoping for. Depending on your background, faith may seem more or less substantive. If you grew up in a critical and godless society, you will have less faith in the supernatural. In spite of this, when you are born again, you are given a measure of faith from God.

...God hath dealt to EVERY MAN the MEASURE OF FAITH.

Romans 12:3

This means that everyone has some amount of faith. You may say, "I don't believe in anything!" But that is not true! Every time you sit on a chair you are exercising faith in the chair. You believe it will not collapse; that is why you sit on it without thinking twice. Whether you know it or not, you have a measure of faith. It is important to develop that faith. The subject of faith is a mysterious one and we have a lot to learn about it.

I know of people who have exercised a lot of faith and this faith has resulted in many breakthroughs. There are also people who have seemingly exercised faith, without getting the same results. I do not have

all the answers and neither does anyone. The Bible describes faith as a mystery.

Holding THE MYSTERY OF THE FAITH in a pure conscience.

1 Timothy 3:9

It is our duty to seek after the Lord and learn all we can from Him.

Every Christian is at a different level of faith. It is important to know that your faith can be at a higher or lower level depending on several factors. You must know what level of faith you are at! It is unreasonable to expect a three-year-old boy to drive a real car!

All he may be allowed to ride is a little tricycle, because he is just not capable of driving an adult's car! This, however, does not make him inferior. All it means is that the boy is not mature enough to handle a real car.

When he is older and mature enough, then he will be capable of handling bigger things. There are many Christians who are believing God for things well beyond their level of faith. You must know the level of your faith.

Types of Faith

The Bible speaks of different levels of faith. The Word of God teaches us that you can have little faith, great faith, growing faith, dead faith, weak and strong faith and even shipwrecked faith.

All these descriptive terms tell us that the status of your faith can vary.

Notice the different Scriptures that describe the levels of faith we can have.

Little Faith

...O thou of LITTLE FAITH, wherefore didst thou doubt?

Matthew 14:31

Great Faith

...I have not found so GREAT FAITH, no, not in Israel.

Matthew 8:5-10

Weak Faith

And being not WEAK IN FAITH...

Romans 4:17-19

Strong Faith

He staggered not at the promise of God; but was STRONG IN FAITH...

Romans 4:20

Exceedingly Growing Faith

We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is meet, because that your FAITH GROWETH EXCEEDINGLY...

2 Thessalonians 1:3

Increasing Faith

And the apostles said unto the Lord, INCREASE OUR FAITH.

Luke 17:5

Full of Faith

...and they chose Stephen, a man FULL OF FAITH and of the Holy Ghost...

Acts 6:5

Faith Unfeigned or Genuine Faith

Now the end of the commandment is charity out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of FAITH UNFEIGNED:

1 Timothy 1:5

Unwavering Faith

But let him ask in FAITH, NOTHING WAVERING...

James 1:6

Rich Faith

...Hath not God chosen the poor of this world RICH IN FAITH...

James 2:5

Perfect or Mature Faith (Fully Developed)

Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was FAITH MADE PERFECT?

James 2:22

World Overcoming Faith

For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that OVERCOMETH THE WORLD, EVEN OUR FAITH.

1 John 5:4

Failing Faith

But I have prayed for thee, that THY FAITH FAIL NOT...

Luke 22:32

Dead Faith

Even so FAITH, IF IT HATH NOT WORKS, IS DEAD, being alone.

James 2:17

Shipwrecked Faith

Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning FAITH HAVE MADE SHIPWRECK:

1 Timothy 1:19

When you look at all these types of faith, you realize that faith is a very variable condition. Do you have strong or weak faith? Are you full of faith? Is your faith dead or alive? These are important questions that you must ask yourself.

How to Improve Your Faith

You will notice that there are some types of faith that you should try not to have. Your faith must not be weak, little, dead or shipwrecked. Just as a weak or dead dog cannot guard your house, weak and dead faith can do you little good. But how does one go from little faith to great faith and exceedingly growing faith? What is the secret to acquiring the faith that brings breakthroughs? The answer is in the Bible.

I am going to share with you biblical methods for improving your faith. There are three simple ways to improve your faith: *hearing the right things, seeing the right things, and using it* (your faith).

Faith Comes by Hearing

The principal way to improve your faith is by hearing. The Word of God teaches us that faith comes by hearing.

So then FAITH COMETH BY HEARING, and hearing by the word of God.

Romans 10:17

Whether you like it or not, what you believe in is determined by the things you hear. There are two ways by which every human being hears or listens to things: intentionally or unintentionally. Whichever way it is, your faith ends up being affected.

When things are repeated over and over, people believe that they are true. Faith comes by hearing!

Can You Marry a Boxer?

When I was going to get married, my wife was very hesitant to get involved with me. She had heard so many negative things from her mother and aunts who had told her that people from the tribe, which I came from were disagreeable. She heard stories of women who had married from my tribe and were beaten up by their husbands.

They went on to prove their theory by showing her that all the world-famous boxers of Ghana were from that tribe! Whether you like it or not, faith comes by hearing! Even when you hear a lie, it has the power to make you believe. That is why some politicians are afraid of churches. They know that our people believe what we tell them. This is the reason why politicians try to control the media. They know that people believe what they hear, whether it is true or not.

What you keep hearing is what you believe. If you are in a church that believes in prosperity, you will believe that prosperity is a good thing and will gravitate towards it. If you are in a church which preaches that sickness and disease are sent from God to teach us humility, that is what you will believe. This is why Jesus said you must be careful about what you hear.

And he said unto them, Take heed what ye hear...

Mark 4:24

When I first became a doctor, many people said, “Now that you are a doctor you will be able to minister to people both spiritually and physically.”

What people don't realize is that for seven years, I heard all about the causes, progression and the outcome of every disease under the sun. Medical science teaches us that many conditions are hopeless. It teaches us how many situations are truly impossible and how the prognosis is often bleak. After hearing such things for years, it is an uphill task to believe that God can and will undo the sicknesses that ravage the

human race. I find it far easier to have faith when I don't know the medical implications of a thing. Faith comes by hearing. You must be careful about what you hear.

Guard Your Ears

If you hear that the economy is going down, you will believe and act accordingly. Money,

which is a piece of paper, depends on the faith of the masses. As soon as the faith of people in money or in the banking system drops, the whole financial world can collapse. Whenever there is bad news in some major financial centre, it sends ripples of fear into the minds of the millionaires of this world. They begin to scramble for their money. This is what causes stock markets and banks to go crashing down.

We must learn how important it is to guard our ears. You must not allow yourself to hear bad news and discouraging stories. Fear is a type of faith and it also comes by hearing. You must select your friends and walk with people who speak encouraging and positive words. It is also important for you to speak positively over your children. If you tell them, "You are daft", "You are stupid" and "You are bad", they will soon believe that they are daft, stupid and bad. I know of children who have been called "devil" by relatives until they eventually turned out to be human "devils".

This is why listening to tapes is such an important spiritual exercise. You must intentionally acquire preaching tapes and soak them in. You must not listen to worldly music. You must surround yourself with Christian music. Music has a message and you will soon believe what you are hearing.

Faith Is Affected by What You See

Although this statement is not in the Bible, it is also true. What is not explicit in Scripture is often implicit in the Word! When Peter walked on the water, he did very well and his faith worked perfectly until he saw the wind and the waves and this had a terrible effect on his faith.

BUT WHEN HE SAW the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me.

Matthew 14:30

What you see affects your faith! Peter's faith dropped drastically and he began to sink. Peter did not hear a message of doubt to disturb his faith

level. He just saw the wrong things! He saw the wind and the waves in action and that is what struck at his faith.

It is sometimes better to pray and believe God about things without seeing certain things. When you begin to observe the wind, waves and the water, your faith can fly out of the window!

Faith Comes by Using It

Everyone has a level of faith. The more you use it, the more it increases. It is like lifting weights. You start from a lighter object and graduate upwards.

Jesus told the parable of the nobleman who gave a pound each to his ten servants. On his return from a long journey, he inquired from each of them how much they had gained by trading (using). You will discover from this parable that using of the one pound led to a natural increase in the number of pounds (Luke 19:12-26).

I find it easier to pray for the sick now. Sometime ago, it was difficult to exercise my faith in that area of ministry. After doing it for some time, it takes less effort to believe God for miracles of healing in miracle services. Faith definitely increases as you use it. God has given us the principle of gaining by trading. You gain as you trade!

As you use these three principles, your faith will gradually move from weak to strong and from little to great! You will no longer have dead or shipwrecked faith. As you hear testimonies of great things that God has done, your faith for the same will rise. Your faith will become exceedingly growing faith.

Chapter 3

Name It!

What do you want from God? Just name it! I have discovered that God is our greatest friend. Traditionally, people have blamed the Lord for every bad thing that happened. Even in legal jargon, disasters like earthquakes, floods and tornadoes are called “acts of God”. What does this mean? They are blaming God for the bad things which occur! What about the devil? If God does all these evil things, what does the devil spend his time doing?

Whenever something bad happens, people would say, “God is moving in a mysterious way, His wonders to perform.” In a certain sense, it is true that God is mysterious to us, but His real nature is revealed in the Word.

In the life of Abraham, God reveals Himself as “El’Shaddai”. “El’Shaddai” is the God who goes against nature and blesses Abraham with a child in his old age. We see Him as the one who blesses His children giving them long life and prosperity.

How then do we blame Him for every bad thing that happens? The devil wants you to believe that God is fighting against you. The opposite is true! The God you serve is the God of promotion and blessing.

If God did not hold back Jesus Christ, what good thing will He withhold from us?

He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?

Romans 8:32

The Bible describes God as the sun and the shield who gives grace and glory. God is giving you beauty for ashes right now!

For the Lord God is a sun and shield: the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.

Psalms 84:11

Did God Try to Kill Jesus?

I want you to remember an experience that the disciples had with the Lord. They were in a boat trying to cross the Sea of Galilee when a storm struck. What did Jesus do? Did he stand up and declare, *“God moves in a mysterious way his wonders to perform”*? Did he say, *“I don’t know why God has sent this storm to kill me, but He is working His perfect plan”*? No, he did not! He rebuked the storm.

...Then he arose, and REBUKED the wind and the raging of the water: and they ceased, and there was a great calm.

Luke 8:24

If God is the one who sent the storm to kill Jesus and the disciples, then Jesus actually rebuked God. By rebuking the storm, Jesus was disapproving of it. He was stopping the agents of destruction from shortening his life and ministry. The Bible teaches us that it is the thief or the devil who comes to steal, to kill and to destroy.

The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

John 10:10

God does not come into your life to destroy you! El’Shaddai does not come into your life to kill you. He is here right now to prolong your life and to extend your days. Your duty is to know and to believe that God is your best friend who is trying to help you.

...and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.

Proverbs 18:24

The devil is the one who is trying to disgrace and destroy you! Satan is the one who has set limitations and barriers all around you. But today, as you rise up in faith to name it, claim it and take it, I see your enemies perish!

Because God is such a good God, He wants you to name your blessings. Traditionally, we have thought that having nice things is sinful; to be a holy Christian means to be nothing and to have nothing. But God has a bountiful store of blessings waiting for those that believe. That is why His Word says you can ask for whatsoever you desire and you can receive it.

Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

Mark 11:24

This Scripture does not say, "Whatsoever things you *need*." It does not say, "Whatsoever things *God desires for you*." It says, "Whatsoever *YOU* desire." God is saying that you can have *your* desires. What do *you* desire? What is your wish? God wants you to name it!

God wants you to ask for it! **The reason why many Christians do not have answers to their prayers is because they do not ask.** Often we think we are carnal if we ask for nice things. But the Bible is very clear on this.

... ye have not, because ye ask not.

James 4:2

One of the Scriptures I love is John 15:7:

If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

John 15:7

Jesus was teaching us that God is prepared to give us what we want. He said that you shall ask what you will and not what God wills for you. God knows that you have a will. You can choose to serve Him or not! God wants to work with people who have chosen to and are willing to serve Him.

The fact that you are a Christian does not mean that you no longer have a will or a desire for certain things. God knows that and He encourages you to come to Him and ask for what you wish. This is the Word of God. Of course, there are some conditions. John 15:7 says that if you abide in Him and His Word abides in you, you can ask for what you want!

When you abide in Christ your desires will line up with the Word of God. I came to know the Lord years ago. My desire now is to win more people to Christ. I desire to experience church growth and the blessings of the Holy Spirit. Somebody may ask, "Don't you desire more money or cars?" The answer is no. If it was money I desired, I would simply practise medicine in America. That would be a simpler way of satisfying a desire for money.

The problem many people have is that they think it is impossible to have more spiritual desires than carnal ones. At a certain level of spiritual maturity, carnal things do not mean so much to you. **As you abide in**

Christ and His Word abides in you, you will desire things that are consistent with the Word of God. When you name them and claim them, you will receive them.

When you have the right heart, wealth and riches cannot destroy you. All the patriarchs who served the Lord were blessed with abundance and wealth. The prosperity of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob often intimidated their neighbours and incited jealousy. God made Abraham very rich. Abraham knew that his prosperity was coming from one source - El' Shaddai. Abraham's faith in God was not destroyed by his riches. The Bible makes it clear that it is the love of money and not money itself that corrupts.

For THE LOVE of money is the root of all evil...

1 Timothy 6:10

From today, begin to name all the things that you desire from your heavenly Father. He is standing by to respond to your faith. *Don't forget that God is impressed with people who believe in Him.*

Chapter 4 - Claim It!

To "claim it" means to confess your faith about what you desire from the Lord. Traditionally, confession has always revolved around the subject of sin. However, it is important for us to know that there are five types of biblical confessions and not just one.

Five Types of Confessions

Confessing Your Sins to the Father

The first type of confession is a confession of sin to the Father. This is the well-known type of biblical confession. *It is important for Christians to confess their sins to God on a regular basis.*

The Bible tells us that if we think we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. No matter how hard we try, sin is part of our flesh and our minds. It is a dangerous thing to think that you are sinless by your own strength.

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:8, 9

Commission and Omission

There are three types of sins: the sins of commission, the sins of omission and the sins of the heart. **Sins of commission are the things you actually do.** Those sins are easy to recognize and therefore easy to confess. **Sins of omission are the things we don't do.** They are things we are supposed to do that we don't do.

Therefore for him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

James 4:17

Maybe God wants you to win somebody to Christ and you fail to speak out. That is a sin of omission. Perhaps God wanted you to pray and you failed to pray, or to support His work financially and you didn't do it. You may not even be aware of the fact that you are sinning, so you need to confess your sins on a regular basis.

Heart Sins

Sins of the heart are even more difficult to recognize. What we often do not recognize is that the heart of man is a very deep thing. There are times when your heart is full of evil and you are not even aware of it. God looks at the heart:

For the Lord seeth not as man seeth; man looketh on the outward appearance, but THE LORD LOOKETH ON THE HEART.

1 Samuel 16:7

The cry of the psalmist is an important prayer for us all. David wanted God to take evil things out of his heart.

Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

Psalm 139:23, 24

Why did King David want God to look into his heart? Couldn't David see whether there was something wicked in his heart? Perhaps not! No one knows you like the God who made you. The Creator knows the creature better than anyone else!

Confessing Your Faults One to Another

The second type of confession is the confession of faults one to another.

Although confession of sins to the Father results in forgiveness, there are times it is necessary to speak to someone else about the problem you have.

Confessing your faults to someone else is not done in order to receive forgiveness. Forgiveness is received from the Father when you confess your sins.

There are times when we need healing and restoration within our spirit. Talking about these things and confessing them out loud helps to heal and eventually overcome the psychological wounds that are acquired through sin. The Amplified Bible throws more light on the Scripture, James 5:16.

CONFESS TO ONE ANOTHER therefore your faults (your slips, your false steps, your offenses, your sins) and pray also for one another, THAT YOU MAY BE HEALED AND RESTORED (TO A SPIRITUAL TONE OF MIND AND HEART)...

James 5:16 (Amplified Translation)

We all need to be restored to a spiritual tone of heart and mind. When you have made a mistake, you need restoration. Restoration comes through confessing to one another. Certainly, telling your problem to the wrong person will only lead to complications. I have noticed that people experience permanent healing and restoration through this second type of confession.

Confessing Christ for Salvation

The third important type of confession is the confession of our faith in Jesus in order to receive salvation.

If thou shalt CONFESS WITH THY MOUTH the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

Romans 10:9

Contrary to traditional opinion, it is not the confession of sins that leads to salvation, but a confession of Christ as your Lord and Saviour.

It is important to confess your sins and repent genuinely, but the Bible makes it clear that it is the confession of Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour that leads to the salvation of the soul.

Whenever you lead someone to Christ, in addition to whatever you say,

ensure that the person is led to confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour.

Confession of our Faith

Let us hold fast the profession [confession] of our faith without wavering...

Hebrews 10:23

The word translated *profession* in the King James Bible comes from the Greek word, *homologia*. This word means “to agree”. It is sometimes translated “profession” or “confession”.

As a Christian body, there are things that constitute the essentials of our faith. Our Christian faith can be confessed or professed. We can speak out and declare what our essential beliefs are. The Apostles’ Creed is a good example of the confession of our faith; it is a good thing to say because it constitutes the essentials of what Christians believe.

The Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and Earth;

And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost; born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into Hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty; from there He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the Holy Catholic (universal) Church; the Communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

You will notice that we believe that Jesus was born of a virgin and not just of a “young woman” as some are claiming today. There is a difference between a virgin and a “young woman”!

This confession also states that Jesus suffered under Pontius Pilate. Pontius Pilate is the only other person whose name is mentioned in this statement. He tried to wash the murder of Jesus off his hands but the church did not allow him to do so. That is why his name is mentioned here. We will never forget how he had Jesus killed!

This reminds me of some authorities today. They behave just like Pontius Pilate and refuse to do the right thing. They also cannot wash their

hands! One day when the history books are being written, it will be stated that the church suffered under the hands of such people.

This confession also speaks of Jesus rising from the dead. Our faith rests on this great fact of history. It is only this fact of his resurrection that separates Christ from every other religious leader. The tomb is empty! There is no place which is as revered as the tomb of Christ.

Another interesting part of this confession is that Jesus will return to judge the living and the dead. We remind ourselves of the day of accountability. We declare that Jesus will return from the skies to judge people. This is the Christian's faith! And when we say these things, we affirm our faith.

Finally, we declare that we believe in the church and in the communion (fellowship) of saints. We believe in spending our time in fellowship with other Christians. We confess that we are glad to go to church. When we declare our faith, it becomes real to us. God wants us to say things that agree with our faith.

Our words must confirm specific things we believe in our heart. Claiming what you believe shows that you have the spirit of faith at work in your life! When a person has a spirit of drunkenness, he drinks a lot and is often drunk. When a person has a spirit of immorality, he gets involved in immoral acts. When a person has a spirit of faith, he confesses positive things that he believes in.

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.

2 Corinthians 4:13

Confession of Specific Faith

Remember that you take your place in Christ and in Heaven by making a confession. You will also take your place in this life by confessing boldly the things that you desire from the Lord. It is time to rise up, speak them out and claim them. Declare that you will live long. Declare that you are unbeatable and unquenchable by the devil. Declare that you are undefeatable, "undiminshable", "unmolestable" and "undieable" before the age of seventy!

What do you lose by speaking out boldly?

Instead of allowing thoughts of fear and panic to ravage your mind, declare that Satan cannot disgrace or limit you in this life. Declare that you are healthy, blessed, prosperous and rich!

What do you have to lose? Open your mouth and declare that your enemies are disgraced and disappointed! Proclaim that God has given you beauty for ashes. Your life is beautiful from today! Your marriage and business are beautiful from today! Declare that beauty characterizes everything you do! Take no notice of the frightening events all around you. If a thousand seem to be falling on your left and ten thousand on your right, declare that it will not happen to you. You have nothing to lose by declaring your faith. Speak it out for that is the spirit of faith at work!

How to Monitor Your Faith Level

The claims you make in life are what we use to assess your level of faith. The Bible says that because you believe you speak. That means your claims are a direct result of your faith level.

If you want to assess yourself, listen to your proclamations and declarations. The bigger your claims the bigger your faith. **Great faith brings forth great declarations!**

It is time to speak about living long! It is time to speak about healing power! It is time to declare how God has prospered you by faith! It is time to declare that you are fruitful in the vineyard of the Lord! Claim your place among God's generals! Claim your place in God's glorious army! Declare that you are a righteous tree planted by the Lord! Do not be afraid of falling; declare that you will stand and not fall!

You Can Have What You Say

Can you really have what you say? The answer is yes! You are actually experiencing what you have said with your mouth. Mark 11:23-24 tells us that mountains will respond to what you say. Begin to say big things, because you have a big God. Say them consistently! That is how you make your claim. Take no notice of the doubters. There will always be an opposition party.

Notice how many times the word "say" appears in this verse.

For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass, he shall have whatsoever he saith .

Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

Mark 11:23,24

It appears five times. God is telling you that you will have what you say. This verse is not promising that you will have what you hope for; it is promising that you will have what you say! Enter in like a little child right now and receive great breakthroughs by claiming your blessings. You are what you say you are! And you can do what you say you can do! You are beautiful because God has made you so! You are successful because you say so! You are intelligent and wise because that is what you are claiming to be!

“Oh pastor, is it that simple?” It is as simple as you make it to be! You cannot experience any of the blessings of the kingdom of God unless you enter in like a little child. Today, I am offering you an answer which is not found through governments or politicians. The master key to your blessing is to name it, claim it and take it!

Paul said that he could do all things through Christ. I also believe that I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. Never say, “I cannot do it!” You will experience the things that you say. I am not telling you to be unrealistic, I am telling you to exercise faith. I am a very realistic person, but I am continually exercising my faith. **It is important to balance the handling of certain realities with the exercising of faith.**

You may have to take medicine in order to stay alive. That does not mean you do not have faith. You can exercise your faith as you take that medication, by constantly declaring your faith and victory over disease and sickness. Apostle Paul was the greatest teacher of faith, yet he was also a practical man. He advised Timothy not to drink water but to use a little wine for his stomach and other diseases.

Drink no longer water, but use a little wine for thy stomach's sake and thine often infirmities.

1 Timothy 5:23

Tongue Power!

Did you know that there is power in your tongue? And no ordinary power at that! The power of life and death is found in the tongue:

Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it

shall eat the fruit thereof.

Proverbs 18:21

You must tap into this great power of the tongue by naming it and claiming it! Claim your victory over darkness. Pronounce your deliverance from the spirits of inferiority and self-pity! You can do all things through Christ who strengthens you!

Declare that you have overcome the demons of worry and anxiety! You are free from nervousness and headaches! Depression and madness have no power over your life!

I see you having favour in all that you do!

The power for abundance and wealth rests in

your ability to claim it! It is time to rise up and pronounce yourself free from cancer and disease. Claim a healthy and long life, in the name of Jesus. You are free from genetic and demonic curses.

Conversations and Commands

The power to live on is in your tongue. There are two types of confessions or claims: *conversational confessions (claims) and commanding confessions (claims)*.

You must be careful with what you say, even in casual conversation. Often it is in casual conversation that you declare the things that you really believe. At other times you can make deliberate commanding confessions. During these commanding claims, you lay hold on victories and breakthroughs by conscious and deliberate confessions. Both of these types of confessions (conversational and commanding)

have power. You must know from today that your words will trap (snare) you whether you spoke intentionally or unintentionally.

Thou art snared with the words of thy mouth, thou art taken with the words of thy mouth.

Proverbs 6:2

You are trapped by the words that you speak.

Don't say things you don't mean.

Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be.

James 3:10

I know that most people think that the tongue is a small and insignificant member of the body. However, you must realize that its power is like the power of a small rudder that controls huge ships. I have ridden strong African racehorses. These horses often had the power and strength to run for miles at very high speeds. Yet, I was able to control these mighty horses by means of small bits in their mouths.

Your life is an important and complex thing, but it can be controlled by your tongue. Declare that your blessings are permanent! Claim your promotion in this life, in the name of Jesus! Openly thank the Lord that no weapon formed against you will prosper! Declare that you are marching on! I see you marching on and the gates of Hell cannot stop you! I see you free from the power of sin, shame and disgrace!

It's Time to Frame Your World

Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear

Hebrews 11:3

Some people wonder how this world came into existence. God made the world through the power of the spoken Word. He simply said, "Let there be..." and there was! He spoke the world into existence by simple and powerful pronouncements. "Let there be light..." and there was light!

And God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly...

Genesis 1:20

When God spoke to the waters to be fruitful, the waters had no choice but to be fruitful. God wants us to imitate Him. Ephesians 5:1 tells us to be imitators of God. That means that we must be holy, because God is holy. That means we must be righteous, because we are imitating a righteous God. **It also means that we are to frame our world by making declarations.**

Let there be happiness in my home! Let there be abundance of all things in my life! Let my cup run over! Let my children live long and prosper! Let my body be healthy and live long! Let my enemies be blown away like the chaff of the wind! Let those that hate me wither and fade away! Let the crooked paths in my life be straightened! Let poverty run away from my

home! Let righteousness characterize my life! Let holiness be part of my life from today! Let me be fruitful! Let me be pleasing to God in all that I do!

Be an imitator of God in this aspect of commanding, claiming, announcing and insisting on your blessings! Begin to imitate your Heavenly Father by affirming, declaring, demanding, maintaining, asserting and pronouncing your breakthrough. That is the God-kind of faith.

Did you know that you can speak to things that do not have physical ears and they will respond? Jesus did that all the time. He once spoke to a fig tree and said,

No man eat fruit of thee hereafter for ever.

Mark 11:14

Jesus spoke to the wind and the sea. Does the sea have ears? The answer is no, but it can respond to your commands of faith!

And he arose, and rebuked the wind, AND SAID UNTO THE SEA, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.

Mark 4:39

One time Jesus even spoke to a dead body. He commanded the dead person to listen. Jesus interrupted the funeral procession and raised a young man back to life in the city of Naim.

And he came and touched the bier [coffin]; and they that bare him stood still. And he said, YOUNG MAN, I SAY UNTO THEE, ARISE. And he that was dead sat up...

Luke 7:14,15

I see you commanding your dead business to resurrect! Declare over your shop the victory of Jehovah! Speak to your bank account and tell it to come alive! Announce to every mountain facing you that it will have to move! Affirm the fact that every impossible situation will be made possible! Insist that you have the victory everyday, in spite of what you see or feel! We walk by faith and not by sight!

For we walk by faith, not by sight:

2 Corinthians 5:7

Naming it and claiming it, is not the same as seeing and feeling things.

We do not live by our feelings. Feelings are real, but God has not asked us to live by them. We are to live by our faith. The father of faith, Abraham, believed that he would have a child. In spite of how he felt, he called those things that were not, as though they were!

(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.

Romans 4:17

I know that there are many things that do not seem realistic. God is not asking you to be realistic; He is asking you to walk by your faith. God is telling you to believe in His Word. You will never be the same after you apply these laws to your life. In the pages following, I want to share with you some biblical things that you should name and claim.

Chapter 5

I Am! I Have! I Can!

When it comes to naming and claiming, the most important thing for you to do is to stay with the Word of God. God will not back foolish and childish claims. If you spend time confessing foolish imaginations, even the devil will take no notice of you!

You are NOT the Queen of England and I am NOT the Prince of Wales so there is no use for us spend time confessing that!

...I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise.

John 5:19

There are three things that you can confess with safety: What you are in Christ, what you have in Christ and what you can do in Christ. I want you to affirm that you are what the Bible says you are. Declare that you can do what the Bible says you can do and proclaim that you have what the Bible says you have.

I AM

I Am Born-Again

That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, THOU SHALT BE SAVED [born again].

Romans 10:9

I Am a New Creature

Therefore if any man be in Christ, HE IS A NEW CREATURE: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

2 Corinthians 5:17

I Am Complete

For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the God-head bodily. And YE ARE

COMPLETE in him, which is the head of all principality and power.

Colossians 2:9,10

I Am Delivered

Who hath DELIVERED US from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear son:

Colossians 1:13

I Am Free

Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith CHRIST HATH MADE US FREE...

Galatians 5:1

I Am Blessed

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, WHO HATH BLESSED US with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:

Ephesians 1:3

According as HIS DIVINE POWER HATH GIVEN UNTO US ALL THINGS that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

2 Peter 1:3

I Am An Heir

...Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then AN HEIR OF GOD through Christ.

Galatians 4:6,7

I Am a King

AND HATH MADE US KINGS and priests unto God and his Father...

Revelations 1:6

I Am the Righteousness of God

For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; THAT WE MIGHT BE MADE THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD in him.

2 Corinthians 5:21

Your faith will become effective and powerful as you confess these things which are in line with the Word of God. *Faith that works is the faith that*

makes confessions. It is not enough to think or dream, you must speak out!

Faith becomes effective when you acknowledge, affirm and vocalize the good things that are in you because of Christ. This is an eternal principle of the Word of God.

That the communication of thy FAITH MAY BECOME EFFECTUAL by the acknowledging of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus.

Philemon 6

I HAVE

I Have All Things

According as his divine power hath given unto us ALL THINGS that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

2 Peter 1:3

I Have Dominion

And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have DOMINION...

Genesis 1:26

I Have the Desires of My Heart

Delight thyself also in the Lord; and HE SHALL GIVE THEE THE DESIRES OF THINE HEART.

Psalm 37:4

I Have the Spirit of Power, Love and a Sound Mind

For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of POWER, and of LOVE, and of A SOUND MIND.

2 Timothy 1:7

I Have the Blessings of Abraham

Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is everyone that hangeth on a tree: THAT THE BLESSING OF ABRAHAM MIGHT COME ON THE GENTILES, through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

Galatians 3:13, 14

I Have the Greater One In Me

...GREATER IS HE THAT IS IN YOU, than he that is in the world.

1 John 4:4

I Have the Power of God Working through Me

But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ THE POWER OF GOD, and the wisdom of God.

1 Corinthians 1:24

I Have the Wisdom of Christ Operating through Me

But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and THE WISDOM OF GOD. But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us WISDOM...

1 Corinthians 1:24, 30

The Scriptures you are reading are the legal and scriptural basis for making these confessions.

You can declare these things over and over because they are Bible-based. These are not the words of an irresponsible dreamer. These are the words of a faith-filled Christian. Jesus marvelled at the great faith of the centurion in Luke 7. He said to Jesus, "Speak in a word and my servant will be healed." His confidence was in the spoken Word of God.

I CAN

I Can Do All Things!

I CAN DO ALL THINGS through Christ which strengtheneth me.

Philippians 4:13

I Can Reign In life!

...they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.

Romans 5:17

I Can Do Greater Works Than Jesus Did!

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; AND GREATER WORKS THAN THESE SHALL HE DO;

because I go unto my Father.

John 14:12

I Can Cast Out Devils!

And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name SHALL THEY CAST OUT DEVILS...

Mark 16:17

I Can Heal the Sick!

...THEY SHALL LAY HANDS ON THE SICK, AND THEY SHALL RECOVER.

Mark 16:17

I Can Overcome This Mountain!

For whatsoever is born of God OVERCOMETH THE WORLD: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.

1 John 5:4

I Can Make It!

For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and THIS IS THE VICTORY that overcometh the world, even our faith.

1 John 5:4

Paul prayed for the Ephesian Christians, that the Lord would open their eyes to see how rich an inheritance God has given to them. From today, I want you to see your rich inheritance! There are some people who think the faith message is past. You are making a big mistake if you try to leave out faith. Jesus said, "These things ought you to do, not neglecting the others" (Matthew 23:23).

Is the Faith Message Outmoded?

Whenever Christians find a new message, they often neglect the earlier message. There can be no victorious Christian life without faith. I speak positive confessions about my life everyday. I confess boldly about how fruitful I am in the kingdom. That is what I am believing God for and that is what I am seeing.

I see you rising up into your blessing now! I see you becoming more Christ-like and more glorious! You are what God says you are! You are not a failure! You are not a disgrace! There is no shame in your life! God

has lifted you up and promoted you! Your enemies shall be blown away like the chaff of the wind! I see God increasing you! Everything you touch is blessed! I see your business flourishing! I see your family flourishing! Your prosperity has become like the dust of the earth! Your blessings have become like the stars in the sky! Your great increase has become like the sand on the sea shore!

You are no ordinary person! You are a champion! You can win! God is strengthening your right hand to conquer the enemy! Do not be afraid from today; the devil is the one who is frightened! Rise up and speak over the church you are pastoring! Speak to the empty chairs and tell them to be filled! You are anointed!

Command your intelligence to respond to your confessions! Command your decisions to line up to the positive claims you are making! You can win! You are indeed a successful person!

I see you with Solomonic and Davidic success! Enjoy the blessings of El' Shaddai! The blessings of the breast are your portion! You will have no need from today because the Lord has heard your cry!

Declare that you have one hundred per cent answers to your prayers. Declare that you are a good husband or wife. Maintain your confession that quarrels are not part of your marriage. Speak over your children: Call them blessed. Call them angels. Call them anointed!

I see God opening your ears now! You will hear from God every time you pray! You have answers to your prayers! God has given you insight and revelation. All your decisions are characterized by wisdom and intelligence. Greater is He that is in you, than he that is in the world!

Chapter 6

How to Take It!

Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I swore unto their fathers to give them. This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

Joshua 1:6, 8

Joshua was the army general who took the Promised Land. If you want to walk into your possession, study the life of Joshua and follow his example. Joshua was told to be strong and very courageous and to meditate on the Word of God, so as to enable him obey the Word of God.

To “take your claims”, means to act on the Word of God. It means to act on your faith and thereby possess your possession. It takes courage to act on your faith. That is why God told Joshua to be strong and very courageous. It takes courage to do an altar call. It takes courage to pray for the sick. What about if no one is healed? That is where courage comes in. If you want financial prosperity, you must obey the Word of God, which tells us to work hard. Galatians 6:7 teaches us that we reap whatever we sow. Whatever you put in, you will reap either a thirty fold, a sixty fold, or a hundred fold.

Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

Galatians 6:7

Proverbs 6:6-8 tells us that ants are prosperous.

Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise: which having no guide, overseer, or ruler, provideth her meat in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest.

Proverbs 6:6-8

They mind their own business and work without supervision. If you really want the financial prosperity that you are confessing, then you must decide to work without supervision - like the ant.

Do you want to experience a financial breakthrough? It is not enough just to confess great things.

You must obey the Word of God. You must obey the Word of God which instructs you to give your tithes and offerings regularly.

Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.

1 Corinthians 16:2

BRING YE ALL THE TITHES into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and POUR YOU OUT A BLESSING, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

Malachi 3:10

Without tithing and giving offerings, your confessions about prosperity will have no effect. When God decides to honour your confessions He will be looking for the seed that you have planted so that He can bless you supernaturally. But if there is no seed, what can God bless? He has nothing to work with.

It is not enough to just name it and claim it. You must go a step further and obey the Word of God. That is how you take it! You must act on your faith. Every time you give money to God, it is an act of faith. We believe that your money is not a stone, it is a seed. It is going to germinate and bring forth much fruit. Generosity is honoured by the Lord. When God sees your acts of generosity which confirm your claim to prosperity, He will supernaturally pour out His blessings upon you.

There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth; and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty. The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself.

Proverbs 11:24,25

Are you confessing for a happy marriage? Then be courageous and obey the biblical instructions of marriage. Wives, you will receive many

blessings because of your submission. Husbands, decide to love your wives practically. It is time to take a happy marriage by obeying the Word of God courageously.

Take your miracle healing by acting on the Word of God! Believe that you have the healing and act as though you have it. If you need to take medicine in order to stay alive, then take it. But keep confessing the Word. There are times that the confessions in themselves, amount to an act of faith. God will honour your faith and prolong your life.

Are you believing God for an anointed ministry? Confess it! In 1983, I made important confessions about my future ministry. I pronounced over my life the blessing of fruitfulness. I believe that those confessions are working out after almost fifteen years. It is not enough to just speak. You must pray and study your Bible. A personal knowledge of God is the greatest key for anointing. Knowing God personally is something that many ministers lack. Do you listen to tapes? If you do, you are doing something right!

But you need to go a step further and know God personally for yourself. You can have what you say, but you must act on your faith. Faith without works is dead faith.

What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? Can faith save him?

James 2:14

When Abraham stretched his hand to sacrifice Isaac, God saw one of the greatest acts of faith in human history. That act gave life to the promises and confessions of Abraham. Abraham's faith came alive when he courageously obeyed the Lord.

Decide to obey God. Fear is what will make you disobey. If you have faith in the Lord, you will obey what He tells you to do. When a confession has no confirming actions, it is actually a dead and useless claim. If you make a claim to prosperity, you must courageously go to work and work very hard.

The Tightrope Walker

You may have heard of the story of the man who walked across a tightrope that was tied over a waterfall. The tourists around cheered and clapped as the man performed this amazing feat.

Next, he pushed a wheelbarrow across the same tightrope. Below him was a fall of several hundred feet. This man amazingly pushed the wheelbarrow successfully to the other side. He was met with cheers and declarations of support. He then asked the crowd, "Which of you believe that I could put a human being in the wheelbarrow and push him across this tight rope?" The whole crowd shouted in approval saying, "We believe and know that you can do it!"

The tightrope walker then asked for one volunteer from the supportive crowd to sit in the wheelbarrow which he would push across the waterfall. There was a hush among the crowd and no one came forward. You see, no one in the crowd was prepared to act on his claims. This meant that their faith was actually dead and useless. If you do not back your confessions with positive actions, your faith will be a dead and useless item, worthy of the rubbish dump.

Christian friend, it is time to act on your faith. You have named it. You have claimed it. Now take it, in Jesus' name!

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