



God Almighty Christian
Community Services

Helping To Put It Together...
And To Keep It That Way!

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Moving Forward and Beyond #1
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Eight Things Men & Women of Faith Must Be Prepared To Do To Move To The Next Level

By Beatrice Smith, GACCS Executive Director

God has been faithful to us, which is evident by his provision for us by the death and resurrection of Christ so that we may live eternally. Because God wrote the end before He wrote the beginning, we can have absolute faith in the results. We must see life from God's view and understand, that in this temporary assignment here on earth, that life is a series of tests. Our faith in His plan will drive our success (which should be based on His standards). It is imperative that we have the confident assurance that what we hope for is going to happen. God directs the path of those who trust in Him. How seriously have we considered our level of faith?

Our prime example of expectation of faith is Christ himself. They say the highest honor that children give their parents is to imitate their behavior. Considering the large benefits that faith produces, we would be foolish not to imitate the best example available to us – Christ Himself. Of the many characteristics that Christ exhibited that we should use to direct our path, eight are presented for your consideration.

- **See Things Differently**
 - Jesus did not always perceive situations the way others did. Rather than seeing the little girl and Lazarus as dead He saw them as 'asleep'. He says the first shall be last and the last shall be first. He said "who ever would be the greatest must become the least"
- **Break Rank**
 - Jesus did not follow the crowd. David, Joseph and so many others in God's Word broke free. Considering all of the dysfunctional behavior entwined within our families, jobs, governments, you must be willing to use your energies to break free from the usual.
- **Stay In Constant Contact With God**

- Jesus met with God daily, usually for hours and nothing could interrupt the time that was set aside. It is God who will make your path clearer to you, who will reveal pieces of His plan to you, and who will provide comfort to you through your journey in this place.
- **Sticking To The Mission**
 - It is easy to get distracted in this place. Jesus knew his mission statement. In the wilderness Satan offered Jesus several business transactions that did not relate to his mission. He resisted! What is distracting you from focusing on what you believing and trusting God for?
- **Not Waste Time Judging Others**
 - Judging others can be a major energy leak! Jesus stated that he did not come to judge but offer life eternally. He even rebuked Peter in John 21:21 when Peter said, "Who among us will betray you, what about him Lord?" Jesus said, "if I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you?" You follow me."
- **Work Through Your Fears**
 - Without fear Christ would not have been an example to us. In the garden Christ was fearful to the point of sweating blood. Fear is an ever-present fact of life. I have discovered that many of us do about 80% of things while fearful; but we do what must be done!
- **Be Willing To Look Foolish**
 - God has little use for people whose main concern is 'what will my neighbors think'.
- **Do Not Despise The Little Things**
 - Have we considered *all* the blessings we have laid before us and all the prayers God has answered?

We must understand that things God plans *will* happen, but according to His timetable. In the mean time, He is looking for those who will be faithful. After all, without faith it is impossible to please God and did He not create us for His pleasure.

* Resources: New Living Translation Bible; Jesus, CEO by Laurie Beth Jones