

**September 2015**  
**From the Desk of Rev. Chuck**

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Dear Friends,

Someone once said, "Faith is like Wi-Fi, it's invisible but has the power to connect you to what you need."

Charles Fillmore, co-founder of Unity, had this to say about faith in the Revealing Word, "*Faith in God is the substance of existence. To have faith in God is to have faith of God. We must have faith in God as our Father and source of all the good we desire. Faith working in spiritual substance accomplishes all things. This is the faith that co-operates with creative law. When faith is exercised deep in spiritual consciousness, it finds its abode; and under divine law, without variation or disappointment, it brings results that are seemingly miraculous.*"

Jesus said time and time again that faith was a powerful force to be used when dealing with the human condition. The writer of Mark reports that he said, "*Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease.*" And to the blind man Jesus said to him, "*Go your way; your faith has made you well.*" And immediately he recovered his sight and followed him on the way.

And both the writers of Matthew and Luke tell of Jesus telling the people that they didn't need to have a huge amount of faith to accomplish things, all they needed was to have, "*... faith as small as a mustard seed...and nothing will be impossible for you.*"

Over the years I have noticed that there are two types of faith active in peoples lives, blind faith and understanding faith. I believe Jesus had understanding faith and tried to teach the people how to apply it in their lives.

Blind faith shows up in peoples lives in several ways:

1. A faith that is instinctive.
  2. A faith that trust in a higher power.
  3. A faith that does not understand the principles of Being.
  4. A faith that does not understand divine law.
- There is a story I would like to share with you that may illustrate these four points.

*One year a rural community was suffering from a terrible drought and their crops--their livelihood--were threatened.*

*The priest told his flock, "There isn't anything that will save us except a special litany for rain. Go to your homes, fast every day from sunrise to sunset, believe that God will answer our prayers, and come on Sunday for the litany of rain."*

*The villagers heard him, fasted during the week,, and went to church on Sunday morning. But as soon as the priest saw them, he was furious. He said, "Go away! I will not do the rain litany. You do not believe."*

*"But, Father," they protested, "we fasted and believed."*

*"Believed? Then where are your umbrellas?"*

The message I have found in this story is one should follow through with putting our "faith into action." It is the following through, acting as if it has already happened, opening yourself up to the guidance of Spirit regardless of what the ego mind may tell you.

When we move from blind faith to an understanding faith we see that it is a working faith, because of these four action steps:

1. A faith that is based on the knowledge of Truth. (God is the Source of all.)
2. A faith that functions from Principle. (God as Law desires only good.)
3. A faith that understands the Law of Mind Action. (That certain causes will produce certain results)
4. A faith that is built on the foundation through the activity of releasing (denial) all doubt and fear and using continuous affirmations to the divine idea, the Christ. As Paul pointed out it is the Christ in you that is your hope of glory.

I leave you with these thoughts on faith:

*Without faith a man can do nothing; with it all things are possible. - Sir William Osler*

*Faith isn't the ability to believe long and far into the misty future. It's simply taking God at His Word and taking the next step. - Joni Erickson Tada*

*Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. - Jesus*