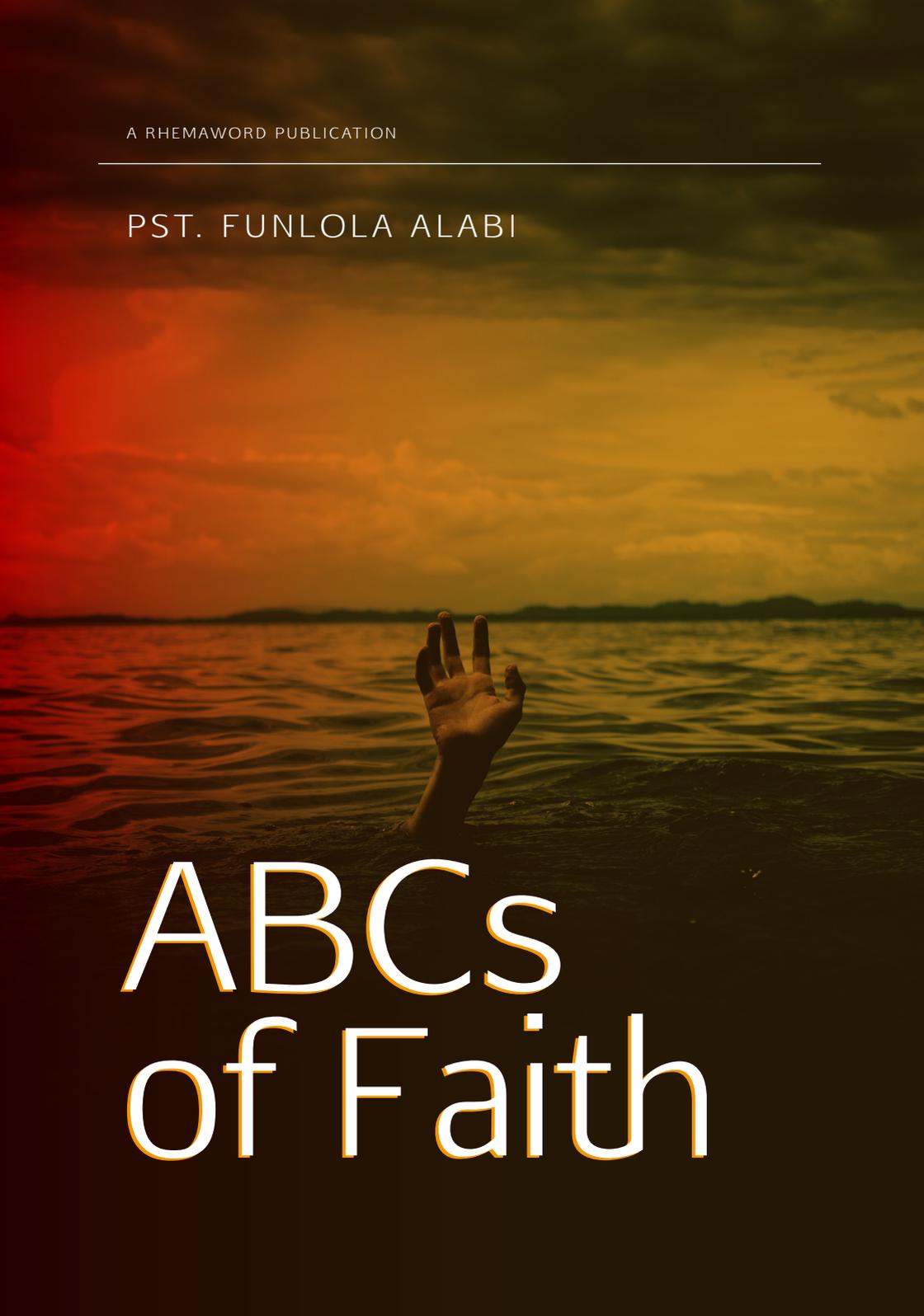


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PST. FUNLOLA ALABI

A hand is seen reaching up from the surface of a body of water. The background is a dramatic sunset or sunrise, with a sky transitioning from deep red on the left to a golden yellow on the right. The water's surface is dark with gentle ripples. The overall mood is one of hope and spiritual yearning.

ABCs of Faith

1.

EVERY BELIEVER HAS FAITH!!

If you born again, you already have faith. What makes you a believer is because you have believed..you have faith.

How faith comes?

Romans 10:17 KJV So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. The hearing of the gospel brings faith, and it the same faith we put back into the gospel to believe it.

Romans 10:8 - 10 KJV But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach; 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. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. The gospel that was preached to us is the word of faith, the moment we heard it, faith was imparted to us (the gospel imparts faith, it doesn't demand it), and it is with the same faith we believed that God raised Jesus from the dead, and it is by the same faith that we confess with our mouth the Lord Jesus.

This faith we received at salvation is the faith of God. So there is no faith of GOD outside the gospel. There is no faith of God outside the message about the death, burial, resurrection and ascension of Jesus. If that is the gospel you heard and believed, then you have the faith of God.

2.

Mark 11. Jesus on his way from Bethany with his disciples was hungry, and he saw a fig tree from afar off with leaves on it, and he approached it hoping to find fruit that he would it but he was disappointed. The fig tree had leaves but no fruit. It had a lot of potential but no result, it had capacity but lacked productivity

And Jesus answered it...

Mark 11:14 KJV And Jesus answered and said unto it, No man eat fruit of thee hereafter for ever. And his disciples heard it. Fast forward to the next morning, on their way out of the city they passed by the tree again and saw that it had dried up from the roots..

Mark 11:21 KJV And Peter calling to remembrance saith unto him, Master, behold, the fig tree which thou cursedst is withered away.

Mark 11:22 KJV And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God.

In other words, Have the God kind of faith or have the faith of GOD.

Mark 11:23 KJV 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.

Note it says "shall not doubt in his heart" why...is because

FAITH IS OF THE HEART...not of the head. The heart is the organ of faith.

At salvation, it was what you believed in your heart that saved you, not what you said.

Romans 10:10 KJV For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

It is With your mouth you attest to what you have believed in your heart.

John 3:16. It says whosever believeth in him, not whoseoever confeseth in him...

So faith is of the heart.

In **1 Samuel 16**, God had sent Samuel to the house of Jesse to anoint him one of his sons to replace Saul as king. And the moment Samuel sighted Eliab, seeing his countenance, his height and his stature, he said surely this is the Lords anointed. But...

1 Samuel 16:7 KJV But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.

Hence it is only God that can count faith.

NOTE Be careful therefore when you observe other peoples experiences..and you see situations where for example you see that a person confesses God's word but there is no

manifestation of the word in their lives...

If you don't believe in your heart, and only say with your mouth, nothing will happen.

Mark 11:23 KJV 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.

NOTE, Oh but he is a man of faith...we see his faith for finances, how come he thinks God is trying to teach him a lesson with sickness?

It is dangerous to be a selective Christian. Don't just use your faith for some areas of your life. Don't go into the word just to select scriptures that talks about money and financial prosperity...

Believe God for every area. Be a balanced Christian. God word is His will...

3.

FAITH BEGINS WHERE THE WILL OF GOD IS KNOWN.

Knowing God's will concerning a matter is very important because You can only believe God for what you know of him.

Whatever you don't ascertain as the will of God, your faith cannot go after.

Romans 12:2 KJV And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Things you need to know about Gods will

1. His will is Good(beneficial), acceptable(well pleasing) and perfect(complete)!!

2. His will is accessible. It is not hidden. God never takes pleasure in hiding things from his children.

Colossians 1:9 KJV For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;

3. His will is Constant. It is the same for every believer.

Hebrews 13:8 KJV Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and for ever.

Acts 10:34 KJV Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons:

James 2:1 KJV My brethren, have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with respect of persons.

Romans 2:11 KJV For there is no respect of persons with God

4. His Will is what it is..His will, not the will of man.

The will, the plan, the wisdom of man is imperfect and limited, and many times will contradict the will of God.

Paul said to Corinthians..

1 Corinthians 2:4-5 And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power:

That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.

5. His will is HIS word.

The simple way to know God's will is to look into the word. In the word we see his heart, his plan his desires, his will...we see Salvation. In salvation we have every other thing..health, protection, provision, marriage, children etc

The will of God is not something you stumble on, its something you must deliberately search it out.

And when you find it, Don't lose sight of it. Keep it before your eyes.

When you have experienced it, Don't lose your grip on it.

James 1:25 KJV But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

A man of faith is a CONSISTENT doer of the word.

4.

WE DONT TRY FAITH TO SEE IF IT WORKS, FAITH WORKS ALL THE TIME.

Faith is not what we do once in a while, is our lifestyle.

And our faith is the faith of God, and if it is of God, it will always work, it can never fail.

You are not alive not by trying to breathe, you live by breathing.

The moment you get born again, Faith must become your new normal.

You let go of living by fear, by anxiety and by mental calculations.

You begin to Live with a confident expectation of good things. With certainty.

If you are still trying faith to see if it works, you will never see the efficacy of the faith life.

Galatians 2:20 KJV I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

5.

To LIVE A LIFE OF FAITH, IS TO WALK BY FAITH.

2 Corinthians 5:7 KJV For we walk by faith, not by sight:

Not by appearance, or fashion When a man walks by sight he will walk in doubt, and will also walk in fear.

The story of how peter walked on water

Matthew 14:24-32 KJV

But the ship was now in the midst of the sea, tossed with waves: for the wind was contrary. And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea. And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear. But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid. And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water. And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus. But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me. And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt? And when they were come into the ship, the wind ceased.

The moment peter took his eyes off Jesus, he became afraid. The moment you stop walking by faith, you will begin to walk in fear, and fear has torment (infliction, punishment)

1 John 4:18 KJV There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.

Note that Peter was beginning to sink, He did not sink. First God will not watch you go down, as long as He is involved in your life and you are walking on his instructions, there is no sinking for you.

Also,

Peter cried out early. Never wait to sink before you cry for help. Don't wait for that disease to become Chronic and terminal before you cry for help. Don't wait for that marriage or business to crash before you cry for help...the moment you begin to see signs and symptoms, go into the place of prayer and nip it on the bud.

Don't allow pride to get in the way of your faith. Stop trying to explain things away.

IMMEDIATELY, Jesus saved him from sinking. God is always ready to save. He is always with us, He never leaves.

1 Peter 3:12 KJV For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil.

Hebrews 13:5 KJV Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

Hebrews 13:6 KJV So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.

Jesus did not allow Peter sink to teach him faith...God will never use evil to teach you any lesson.

James 1:13 KJV Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:

6.

HOW OUR FAITH WORKS

Mark 11:14-25.

v22-23 explains how the faith of God works.

Mark 11:21 - 23 KJV

And Peter calling to remembrance saith unto him, Master, behold, the fig tree which thou cursedst is withered away. And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God. 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.

Whosoever- you too can walk by faith. Never disqualify or exempt yourself from the life of faith. As long as you are a believer, you have the faith of God and you can walk by faith.

Just like God, faith is no respecter of persons. Whatever your tribe, or gender, social standing or age. It works for children too.

The mountain is symbolic of any obstacle, hinderance or challenges, or things that are bigger than you. And we are to speak to the mountain..not move, or push or pull or lift the mountain.

The life of faith is not a life of struggle but of authority. It's a life of ease. It's not a life void of challenges or obstacles neither does it does not exempt you from them but gives you authority over them, it puts us over challenges when they come, and puts us in command over the challenges of life. It puts us in

charge. Such that you will not be at the mercy of your circumstances.

It is by faith that we make big moves. We take bold steps, and we do big things. There is no height that is too for you to climb. There is no depth that is too deep and wide for you to cross, there is no shoes that are too big for you to fill, there is no opportunity that is too big for you to go for, there is no resources that is too much for you to have.

The life of faith is a life of strength...not a life of weakness

Hebrews 11:11 KJV Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised.

So if we will not push the mountain or try to lift the mountain, what are going to do to it? WE SAY!!

Why is because FAITH IS RELEASED BY SPEAKING.

Mark 11:23 KJV 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.

There are 4 things you need to know about Faith-

1. Faith speaks it doesn't keep quiet.

As far as faith is concerned, silence is not the best answer for a fool. You release words of faith. If you are not speaking, you are

not living the life of faith, neither are you living life in the spirit.

You will have what you say not what God said. To have what God said is to say what He said Never let the devil silence you. Don't let him steal your voice, don't let his voice be louder in your ears and in your heart than the voice of God.

If you don't know what to say, open your bible and declare Gods word, pray in tongues and speak forth the words that rises in your spirit.

The first way to act on Gods word is to say it. Things, situations respond to words. So you must speak to every area of your life, thats how to be faith active. Gen1 we see God speaking things into reality. Spirits speak.

2. Faith speaks boldly.

There is no timidity in the faith walk.

Acts 14:3 KJV Long time therefore abode they speaking boldly in the Lord, which gave testimony unto the word of his grace, and granted signs and wonders to be done by their hands.

'Speaking boldly; parrhesiazomai; to be Frank in utterance, confident in spirit and demeanor, to be bold, to speak boldly)

When faith is released by speaking boldly, the miraculous happens. Signs and wonders will be done.

When we speak, there is a release of power. Faith filled words, when spoken, makes things happen.

See Genesis 1 creation, see the fig tree in Mark 11. Faith addresses matters from the roots. When we speak into a situation, there is a supply of the spirit of Jesus to resolve that situation, the spirit of Jesus is the spirit of power.

Ephesians 1:19 - 20 KJV And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places,

3. Faith speaks in specifics.

Mark 11:14 KJV And Jesus answered and said unto it, No man eat fruit of thee hereafter for ever. And his disciples heard it.

Mark 11:23 KJV 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.

See the specific instructions in these demonstrations of faith...

Don't be verbose, vague or ambiguous in your speaking...give your faith something specific to work on and to work with.

Be mindful of the content of your words.. don't speak words of fear, anxiety, or complaints.. but faith! Say what you want to see. Speak Gods word not your situation. Speak of the finished works of Christ.

The reason why the words of Jesus never fell to the ground, was because he only said what He heard the Father say.

John 5:30 KJV I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me.

John 8:28 KJV Then said Jesus unto them, When ye have lifted up the Son of man, then shall ye know that I am he, and that I do nothing of myself; but as my Father hath taught me, I speak these things.

We must only speak Faith filled words which are words that agree and align with God, and what HE has said and not fear filled words.

4. Faith speaks consistently.

Faith keeps on speaking!!it doesn't stop even after it has seen what it said. We don't stop confessing healing and health because we have been healed from a sickness.

And that is what Confession is about. Homologeo; to say the same things as God has said and as He has done.

We don't take breaks from the life of faith. It is what you say consistently that you will have. And it is what you say consistently that will catch up with your realities.

Our hearts are programmed to believe what we say consistently especially from your own mouth.

Where you are today is as a result of the things you said yesterday, and also things you did not say. Stop living on expired words...keep speaking to cover the many years ahead.

To not speak has consequences...There are things that will

never happen in your life by accident except you say them.

Also, the words you say are programmed to take care of you in your subconscious.e.g Matthew 28:6 KJV He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. Jesus declared his resurrection before he died...he is risen as he said.

7.

OTHER IMPORTANT THINGS TO NOTE

Confession is not about parroting words, your heart must agree with what your mouth is saying.

Faith doesn't just work because you spoke, it works because you don't doubt what you say.

Mark 11:23 KJV 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.

You must not doubt what you say.

No faith-filled word is a waste, so maximize every opportunity you have to speak.

It's important to speak faith words even when you don't seem to see the need for it because when you make faith confessions, you are making deposits into the bank of your life and destiny.

There will come a time when you will need to withdrawals either for yourself or for someone you love.

Trust me, at such times the most devastating thing that can happen is to discover that your account is empty.

Don't speak idle words.

The more idle words come out of your mouth or that enters your ears, the more doubtful your heart becomes. Guard your heart.

Matthew 16:21 - 23 KJV

From that time forth began Jesus to shew unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day. Then Peter took him, and began to rebuke him, saying, Be it far from thee, Lord: this shall not be unto thee. But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men.

Here, Peter spoke against God's plan and Jesus rebuked him, you must resist contradictory words immediately.

Don't be lazy in confession.

One of the things that happen when you confess God's word is that your spirit man is being fed.

Proverbs 18:20 KJV A man's belly shall be satisfied with the fruit of his mouth; and with the increase of his lips shall he be filled.

When your spirit is fed, it will be strong. You cant afford to have a weak spirit especially in these times.

Proverbs 18:14 KJV The spirit of a man will sustain his infirmity; but a wounded spirit who can bear?

Proverbs 24:10 KJV If thou faint in the day of adversity, thy strength is small.

You must Feed your spirit so strong that when you hear bad news going on the world, you sympathise with the victims but your spirit man is unroughened. You take necessary precautions but not out of fear of death but for the love of life.

We don't do fear.

Job 5:20-22 KJV In famine he shall redeem thee from death: and in war from the power of the sword. Thou shalt be hid from the scourge of the tongue: neither shalt thou be afraid of destruction when it cometh. At destruction and famine thou shalt laugh: neither shalt thou be afraid of the beasts of the earth.