



BURUBURU COMMUNITY CENTRE CHURCH OF GOD NAIROBI

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TOPIC: STEPPING OUT OF FAITH
SCRIPTURE: LAMENTATIONS 3:20-22
SERMON PREACHED BY REV. ENOCK MBAYI ON 19 JULY 2020

Introduction

Stepping out of faith sounds easy, but it means leaving the comfort zone and facing our deepest fears. When the circumstances are dictating that there is little optimism to go around--our souls don't want to step out in faith. God calls us to sit still and sometimes He calls us to move in faith in a certain direction. Remember when Peter stepped out into the water from the fishing boat and then took his focus off of Jesus? He saw the wind and cried out: "Lord, save me." Jesus immediately reached out His hand and took hold of him: "O you of little faith, why did you doubt."

Definition

Stepping out on faith really means to do what God said to do without knowing the outcome of it. It is simply obeying the voice of God without a clue as to what will happen.

Abraham stepped out on faith when God told him to leave his relatives and go into a land that He told him to go. He went out not knowing where he was going. He did not leave before he heard from the Lord; this is stepping out on faith.

Peter Jesus disciple stepped out of boat in faith (Matthew 14:22-33).

As we step out of our faith we must know that;

There is risk peter was an experienced fisherman, but he knew getting out of the boat could cause him to drown.

Fear Peter walked on water, but when he took his eyes off of Jesus and looked at the waves, he became frightened. You can't stop yourself from being afraid, but you can control how you respond to fear.

Setbacks after successfully walking on water, Peter begun to sink, because of little faith.

Why should we step out in faith?

1. **Nourishes our Mind.** (Romans 12:2)

Stepping out in faith can help us recondition your mind and change our perspective. Changing your mindset allows you to see things from God's perspective and helps to get out of your head. Reminiscing on what worked and what did not work will not bring you joy. Romans says "Do not conform to the pattern of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—His good, pleasing and perfect will." We need to retrain our thoughts to focus on how powerful holding onto our faith can be instead of shrinking in fear.



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2. It gives us Confidence (Isaiah 40:31)

If we want to build confidence, stepping out in faith will do it. Trust God to encourage you and to use situations in your life for good. The Bible said in 2 Corinthians 1:3-8, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God." Sometimes God's plans make us nervous! Yet, we can have the confidence that we are following.

3. It helps us to remain focused (Hebrews 12:1-2)

If we allow ourselves to be dominated by the distractions of life, we will never know God's purpose. When we allow problems to consume us, we lose our way and can't hear from God as clearly.

4. Brings up opportunities (Mark 11:22-24)

Stepping out in faith can open up doors you never could've imagined. Most of the time, we allow our environment to influence in what God called us to do. Our environment either inspires us on who we want to become or challenge us on what we must avoid. It is a matter of taking a step out of our comfort zones. Start to write down where you feel the Lord is leading you. Pray over your thoughts and ask the Lord to guide you on what opportunities that He wants you to pursue.

5. It keeps as Stronger (Psalm 28:7)

Faith is like using a muscle that has never been used before. It will only become stronger every time you use it. Faith doesn't have to be associated with advancement in life. However, you need to exercise the faith muscle. "Standing on the sidelines and expect your faith to arrive without any deliberate intent on your part, then you run the risk of missing the chance to jump into life," author Alex Blackwell shared. Are you willing to remain in comfort and live your life afraid of change? The Israelites forgot how God delivered them from Egypt and provided a way of escape through the Red Sea. When they did arrive at their new land they complained that they would not have enough to eat, surely God would have proved them what they needed. Their lack of faith kept them stuck. Exercise your faith and don't stand on the sidelines.

Conclusion

We may desire to follow Jesus secretly but we must be open about our faith and exercise our faith in the face of fear.

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