

Part 9

Faith Alive Through--

MOVING THE MOUNTAINS OF LIFE

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While sharing in a Faith Alive Revival with Gilbert and Barbara Forest, ministers of the Panther Creek Church of Christ in Southeastern Oklahoma, I asked their five year old son this question: "Jason, what do you want to be when you grow up?" His reply, "I want to be me." I commended him for such a wise answer and offered encouragement that he would be satisfied with this all his life. Many of us do not make nearly that wise a confession. We want to be somebody else, or a super-star. Making the right confession as we face the mountains in life is of much importance!

Jesus' own words are--

And the next day, when they had come out from Bethany, He was hungry. And seeing from afar a fig tree having leaves, He went to see if perhaps he might find something on it. And when he came to it, He found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs. And Jesus answered and said to it, "Let no one eat fruit from you anymore forever." And His disciples heard it. (Mark 11:12-14)

And in the morning, as they passed by, they saw the fig tree dried up from the roots. And Peter, remembering, said to Him, "Rabbi, look! The fig tree which You cursed has withered away." And Jesus answered and said to them, "Have faith in God. For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will come to pass, he will have whatever he says. Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them." (Mark 11:20-24)

My first response to His invitation to speak to a mountain often was: IMPOSSIBLE! My second response was: WHAT IF the mountain doesn't move? Thirdly, I began to look for a loophole by suggesting that it is figurative language. I submit to you a fourth possibility that I pursued. Accept what our Lord said at face value and get on with the business of speaking to the mountains, allowing my faith to include both literal mountains and the very real mountainous challenges and obstacles I face on the Road of Life.

Let's face the mountains by giving attention to what Jesus advised.

1. "Have faith in God." Vs.22

Let's not get hung up on this point. It only takes a mustard-seed faith to speak to a mountain. Science has examined the tiny mustard seed and asserts there is enough atomic power in one seed, if harnessed, to move the Empire State Building off its foundation. Jesus constantly called forth even "Little Faith." Look at Matthew 8:26.

And He said to them, "Why are you fearful, O you of little faith?" Then He arose and rebuked the winds and the sea. And there was a great calm.

In trying to make the Greek language speak English, the translators did us a great dis-service. There are NO Greek words in the manuscripts for "ye" and "of" and the word "faith" is in the plural. This is true in all six places (Matthew 6:30; 8:26; 14:31; 16:8; Luke 12:28) in the New Testament where this clause is used. Left alone with no words added it reads--"O LITTLE FAITHS." Since it would be entirely out-of-character for Jesus to put people down for the little faith they had, I suggest the phrase, "O LITTLE FAITHS", was a pet name that the Master used when someone had tried and failed. He was seeking to draw out the little faith they had. In this place, to encourage them to replace their fear of the storm with just a little faith.

2. "Whoever says to this mountain," Vs. 23

At this point Jesus said "Say." He did not say "pray." There is a *difference*. In other places He taught us to PRAY. Here he teaches us to address an obstacle-challenge ("mountain") with words. When praying, we call upon God in Jesus' Name to bless, provide, help, etc. There are matters the Lord expects us to handle in His Name simply because He has delegated authority to us through the Word.

Examples include--

*"Go into all the world...preach...teach...baptize in the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit." (Matthew 28:19)

*"In His Name" we are told to--**Give a cup of cold water to drink. (Mark 9:38)

*Do a miracle in His Name. (Mark 9:39)

*Resist the devil in His Name. (James 4:7; Matthew 16:23)

This is the expectation here, that with mustard-seed faith we will SPEAK to the mountains under the canopy of His sovereign power, and rejoice as the mountains move!

And W-H-A-T shall we say to these mountains?

3. "Be removed and be cast into the sea." Vs. 23

His Word applied is His power supplied! The very **BEST WORDS** to say to a mountain are **GOD'S OWN WORDS**. This way, the will of God is known and applied. Let a promise of God from a proper Bible context be addressed to a situation in Jesus' Name and watch the mountain move.

EXAMPLE #1:

It happened at Rossville, Kansas with Bob and Vickie Seih. The Wednesday night "Dealing With the Devil" Class was nearly concluded. I began to feel deathly ill with nausea, headache and extreme weakness. There would be no evening preaching by me unless a remedy was forthcoming to remove this "mountain" blocking my path. Using Bob Sieh's office as a Prayer Room, I came against this "mountainous problem" with the truth of God's Word. I began to resist the devil in Jesus' Name and S-A-Y (confess) the truth of Isaiah 40:

But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength;
They shall mount up with wings like eagles,
They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint. (Isaiah 40:31)

Just as quickly as this "mountain" had blocked my path, even so, confronted with the truth of God's Word it dissipated. I praised the Lord and preached the evening message with no further symptoms.

EXAMPLE #2

Naively, I believed an IRS (Internal Revenue Service) Agent in 1963 when he told me that as a "Clergyman" I could get out of the Social Security program. He gave me the proper procedure (?) to follow. I did as he said and assumed the case was closed. It was not until 1977, when the IRS notified us that our 1975 Social Security report was to be audited, that I realized there had been an error. As this audit was being completed we received a

second letter advising us that our 1976 S.S. report was to be audited. As this audit drew to a close, we received a third letter stating that our 1977 filing was up for audit. By this time the auditor had begun to talk of us owing several thousand dollars in back payments, penalties and interest. We needed help to surmount this "mountain!" Help came on a hot August afternoon as Imalee and I knelt together and spoke--confessed the truth of Psalm 27 towards this social security mountain. Verses that were especially relevant are these:

(Vs.1)The Lord is my light and my salvation:

Whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the defense of my life;

Whom shall I dread.

(Vs.3a)Though a host encamp against me,

My heart will not fear;

(Vs.4,5)One thing I have asked from the Lord,
that will I seek:

That I may dwell in the house of the Lord all
the days of my life,

To behold the beauty of the Lord,

And to meditate in His temple.

For in the day of trouble He will conceal me in
His tabernacle;

In the secret place of His tent He will hide me;

He will lift me up on a rock.

It was as if someone had hired auditors and lawyers to deal with this "mountain." Like an invisible shield the Presence of the Lord could be observed as the audits continued. Completed in October of 1978, the total due was \$3,100. A small amount to some, but an astronomical figure of impossible proportions to us.

On a cold winter morning in November, a Christian brother we had known for many years at Minneola, called from Wichita to ask if we would be home that morning. He drove down to our house at Arkansas City from Wichita where his wife, Dorothy, was having knee surgery. We visited, shared dinner and prayed together. While Ellis Wears had no knowledge of our need, yet he handed us a check for \$5,000 just because he wanted to share in this ministry. The investment of this in the Savings and Loan made possible funds to pay the Social Security assessment plus providing this Ministry with a Travel Trailer. The "mountain" moved upon our speaking the truth of God's Word towards it! We PRAISED JESUS!

EXAMPLE #3:

Friday night was approaching in Senior High Week of our Ashland (Kansas) Christian Service Camp. It had been a week of unusual challenges as early on in the week three young men had been caught smoking marijuana after the evening service. The faculty met briefly and I promised we would meet the next morning for a final decision. The devil seemed to be winning in that Tuesday morning faculty meeting as someone suggested that we should notify the Sheriff and send the three young men home. I reminded the Brothers and Sisters that these young people had come to camp needing help and that I had signed on as Dean for the same reason--to help young people forsake self and sin and find the Saviour. And if they chose to send the young men home that I would be going home too. We knelt and prayed. The vote was 18 to 0 for the three boys to stay.

The fireside consecration service was always the highlight of the week. Now black clouds out of the southwest with increasing wind was threatening to stop the outside night service. As rain-drops big as half-dollars began to fall, I walked out to the bonfire and spoke to this "mountain" of a storm saying--

"Clouds, wind, rain: Jesus made you and He made me. He told me to speak to mountains in His Name and they would move. Therefore, I speak to you--Clouds, wind and rain in Jesus' Name you will not hinder this campfire consecration service. Blow away, move over this camp service because Jesus is Lord!"

Of course I REJOICED GREATLY when the rain drops stopped and the storm moved over. It did dump five inches of rain and hail on points just East of Ashland and thru the Protection area. But, the campfire burned bright that night as we moved around the circle, each one telling how they were going to serve Jesus better. Surely it flamed up highest when the three young men said. "WE WANT JESUS AS OUR LORD!"

EXAMPLE #4

MOVE THE "DEVIL'S MOUNTAIN TRAP" by SPEAKING GOD'S WORD against it.

Many of the "mountains" of life are stumbling blocks erected by the devil. We deal with these "mountains" using the Word of God.

The devil is resisted with--*

*SCRIPTURE: Matthew 4:4,7,10

*WORDS spoken against him in Jesus' Name: Matthew 4:10; 16:23

***THE BLOOD OF JESUS: Revelation 12:11**

The above procedure is the same plan Jesus used of whom it was said "leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps." (I Peter 2:21)

Here is a sample statement that I use in confronting this "mountain."

"Father in Heaven I desire to resist the devil:
Devil, in the Name of Jesus the Christ, I reject you as
Scripture says--

'Resist the devil and he will flee from you.'

Therefore, in Jesus Name be gone out and away from
----- (name of person)-----.

Jesus, cover----- (name of person)----- with your Blood
and minister strength and victory through Your Holy
Spirit in Your Name. A-men."

While sharing a Faith Alive Revival with Barry and Stella Walker in the Bucklin (Kansas) Christian Church in 1976, we were challenged by a "MOUNTAIN" erected by the devil.

While visiting people in their homes one afternoon, Barry told me before we arrived at a certain house that the lady kept a pet boa constrictor in her house. "Most of the time it is in a cage," he said. I assured him that it would be in the cage if I entered the house. We knocked on the door and the lady invited us in. I could see the cage at the corner of the fireplace and the snake **was** in it. The lady cradled a very tiny Rat Terrier dog in her right arm. Barry introduced me and as I reached to shake hands this squirrel size dog bit my thumb. Blood started running down my hand. The lady said--"Did that dog bite you? He has never bitten anyone before." I responded--"Well, he has a record now."

At this point you can see how very quickly the devil erected this "mountain trap." I could have let the "mountain" fall on us by saying--"Is this dog mad? I've got to get a tetanus shot." Instead I discerned with my spirit what was happening and wrapped my handkerchief around my wounded thumb.

While doing this and finding a place to sit, I came against this "devil's mountain trap" with the Name of Jesus and the Word of God. The trauma passed. We talked to the lady about

Jesus out of Acts 8:26ff and she received Jesus and was baptized!

WHAT SHALL WE SPEAK TO LIFE'S MOUNTAINS?
Speak the everlasting Word of God.

God says:

I watch over my word to perform it. (Jeremiah 1:12)

4. "and does not doubt in his heart," Mark 11:23

It's easy to doubt simple words spoken against a difficult or impossible problem; but, the WORD OF GOD forever stands! I saw a "mountain" move by the strong Word of God in September, 1984, while sharing a Faith Alive Revival in Walterboro, South Carolina. Hurricane Diana was moving up the coast. The weather service was announcing "Hurricane Warnings" to the people--Get extra food, tape windows, stay inside. Hurricane Diana would strike sometime after midnight Sunday. That evening BOLD Preacher, Mark Bowers, led in prayer. In this prayer he spoke to this hurricane rebuking it in Jesus' Name, advising it of what Jesus said about speaking to a mountain. He told it to turn aside and not hinder the Revival. The Sunday evening service was over and Mark, not doubting in the least, advised me we would be calling the next day. He ordinarily would have been busy during the day teaching high school English. But, when the school officials became convinced Sunday evening that the hurricane would strike Charleston and move inland to Walterboro on Monday, they cancelled school. I was surprised the next morning when the National Weather Service announced that sometime during the night Hurricane Diana had taken a sharp turn to the northeast and was moving up the coast out into the ocean? That "mountain" did move! PRAISE GOD!!!

Personally the Lord has blessed us by switching headwinds to tailwinds on the highways we travel. Some will ask--"Does this always work?" No, but 80% of the time it does. I surmise with the other 20%, some other Brother out on the highway has already spoken to the wind and its course is established for the day. This doesn't bother me. I like to say--"First come, first served." Long ago I quit trying to "play

God” and simply follow His Word and let Him handle any conflicts that may arise from opposite prayers, etc.

All “mountains” that affect the executing of His Will must m-o-v-e at the power of His Word!

We learned to apply this great “mountain speaking truth” without doubting in 1981 and 82. It was the night before we were to leave for a Faith Alive Revival at Oberlin, Kansas with Bill and Carol Duncan. Stormont Vail Hospital of Topeka, Kansas called, advising us that our daughter, Rebecca, had been admitted as the result of an overdose of aspirins. How often we had seen the devil try to prevent us from getting to a scheduled Revival. Thus, we made the hard decision to talk with Rebecca on the telephone, proceed to the Revival and come back by Topeka on the way home.

According to my spiritual calendar diary it was on December 3, 1982, that we began to speak to this “mountain” with the promised truth of II Timothy 1:7:

For God has not given..(Rebecca).. a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

Some seven years later, when I visited with Rebecca about her illness, she wrote down these words:

“Stay in Stormont Vail Hospital: December, 1981:

Attending counselor/psychologist, Rick Selig, along with the staff of psychiatrists.

Rick Selig, along with the psychiatrists, began looking for a diagnostic label. They decided to apply the label of “Manic/Depressive.” I was started on all the drugs that are supposed to help someone suffering from that disorder. Almost immediately, I began to experience every uncomfortable side effect in the books.

During my stay in this hospital some strange things came out. In retrospect (because I certainly didn’t know it at the time), I was carrying around guilt because of the condition of my sister, Lisa, and the death of my brother, Lynn. Rick didn’t help me deal with anything and certainly didn’t provide me with any hope or comfort, nor did he encourage me to be around people who could. Furthermore, Rick informed me that I would be in continuous counseling for at least the next seven years. I would

never be able to handle stress and I should seek some type of manual labor. He was wrong on all three counts.”(1)

Meanwhile at home we continued to confess Paul’s statement towards this “mountain.”

For God has not given..(Rebecca)..a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

At the same time, here at home on my spiritual calendar I wrote:

2/8/82-Rebecca vastly improved. Started a new job!

3/26/82-Rebecca called on Saturday evening to say she was again in the psychiatric ward of Stormont Vail Hospital suffering from hallucinations.

4/10/82-Made a quick trip to Topeka to see Rebecca in the Memorial Hospital. Some improved. Will be there three to four weeks.

4/20/82-Rebecca called to say she is entering the Topeka State Hospital for treatment.

To the II Timothy promise we added Jesus words as recorded by John as we spoke God’s truth to this “mountain.”

The thief does not come except to steal and to kill, and to destroy. I HAVE COME THAT..(Rebecca)..MAY HAVE LIFE, AND THAT..(she)..MAY HAVE IT MORE ABUNDANTLY. (John 10:10)

Rebecca continues her description of these events:

“Finally, relief came. I was transferred from Stormont-Vail Hospital to the Topeka State Hospital. At that time the psychiatrist assigned to oversee the ward I was on did me a favor, actually several. He refused to allow me to see Rick, my psychologist, during my stay there and he took me off of every tranquilizer other doctors had considered important. When I questioned what was happening, he simply said, ‘I see no reason for you to be here. You have been under Rick’s counsel for six months and have seemingly made no progress. I see no reason for you to continue seeing him. As for the drugs, they only mask the real problem’ ”(2)

During this time we had engaged our “Faith Alive Prayer Band” to pray for Rebecca. Also, on Saturday night, June 19th, we attended a Revival service at the Ashland, Kansas Assembly of God church. I had come to know the preacher

thru the caretaker work at our campgrounds. Knowing of Rebecca's problem, the preacher called us forward for special prayer at the close of the service. This group prayed like they had a hold of God's hand. It was one week later Rebecca was released. So, we received the phone call of June 26th from Rebecca that she was being dismissed from the Topeka State Hospital with **GREAT REJOICING!**

At last the "MOUNTAIN" had moved!

Rebecca tells about her dismissal in her own words.

When the invitation came from my parents to assist them in the manager's work (cooking, cutting grass and repairs) at the Ashland (Kansas) Christian Service Camp, the doctor was in agreement that this would be a very good thing.

On that drive from Topeka to Ashland, I felt as though I was being released from darkness and despair into hope and hallelujah times ahead!(3)

Now, six years later, all symptoms are gone and Rebecca is happily employed by Boeing Aircraft of Wichita, Kansas.

5. "but believe that those things he says will come to pass, he will have whatever he says." (Mark 11:24)

New American Standard Bible grasps the right verb tense in saying--"believe that you have received them." Vs.24. And, **HOW shall we manifest such an attitude?** When someone gives me a gift, my natural response is to say, "Thank You!" Just so, we show forth a positive **TRUST**, after speaking God's truth to a problem or challenge by **THANKING GOD FOR THE COMPLETED FACT!**

Many other Scriptures express this same truth.

When Jesus met the ten lepers and told them to go and show themselves to the Temple Priests, it was in their **GOING** that they were healed. When they started for the Temple, their leprosy was still on them but Luke 17:14 records it this way:

"And it came to pass, THAT AS THEY WENT, THEY WERE CLEANSED."

An illustration of this truth applied happened to me beginning in June of 1980. During that summer I was laboring as Camp Manager (custodian) at the Ashland (Kansas) Christian Youth Camp. While installing a battery in the camp bus I tipped the battery, spilling acid onto my cloth gloves. After the project was done, I removed my gloves to discover a red burn on my right middle finger. As the months went by this grew into what looked like a callous. One year later it cracked open and refused to heal. I tried all the home medicine--Compound W, Aloe lotion, rubbed it with castor oil and turpentine--with no healing. In August of 1981, I went to a Doctor who burned it off with an electric needle; but, it promptly returned twice as big as previously. So, in mid-November, Dr. Bruce Smith burned it off again. The cure now became far worse than the disease. I asked two other doctors their opinion. They said it looked like I would lose my finger up to the first joint. It was now so sore and inflamed that I could not even use the typewriter.

However, on Sunday evening, November 19th, in the home of Bob and Rose Osburn here in Arkansas City a prayer circle consisting of Bob and Rose, my wife, Imalee and Junior (an Elder) and Nell Lewis of Oregon anointed me with oil according to James 5:14ff and prayed over me and for this finger. I made request of our 100 member Faith Alive Prayer Band to pray for my finger in particular.

Now comes the APPLICATION of Mark 11:24 "believe that you have received." Right during that prayer circle I began to THANK GOD for healing my finger. There and in the days to come I spoke these phrases over and over--**

*Thank You Jesus for a healthy finger like the other seven!

*Thank You Jesus for filling up the hole in my finger.

*Thank You Jesus for the return of my finger prints.

*Thank You Jesus for healing this hurting finger!

I was acting with POSITIVE FAITH and GOD MOVED THAT "MOUNTAIN!" He made my wounded finger whole with no problems since!

SALVATION is also a LARGE MOUNTAIN! HOW DO I KNOW I AM SAVED?

By the same principle that Jesus stated in Mark 11:24--*Believe that you have received.* There are three principles involved in the application of this truth:

1. FACTS
2. FAITH
3. FEELINGS

#1. FACTS--The Word says it! That settles it!

John 3:16--For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

Acts 2:38--.....Repent and let everyone of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

#2. FAITH--The Word said it! I apply it by acting on it (obeying). Therefore I am saved!

#3. FEELINGS--are like the caboose on the end of a train. They make a great caboose but a bad engine. How often do I hear people saying--"I don't f-e-e-l like I'm saved. I don't f-e-e-l like God is real, I don't f-e-e-l like I have the Holy Spirit. I don't f-e-e-l like I'm healed, etc., etc.."

When in FAITH we act on the FACTS, then the FEELING will follow. Feelings are dangerous because the devil can sway them back and forth like tree limbs in the wind.

Many years ago a dear Saint, Lottie Downs, of Minneola, Kansas called me over to the hospital. She said--"Wilbur, come in and close the door."

I did and next she said, "Now bend down close so you can hear my whisper."

I did and these were her words--"Preacher, I am dying and I don't know whether I am saved."

Immediately I responded--"Lottie, you told me that you've been a Christian 80 years. Isn't that right?"

"Well, yes, that's what I told you," she whispered.

"Lottie, tell me if these words are true--

*There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus. (Romans 8:1a)

*Whosoever therefore shall confess Me before men, him will I confess before my Father which is in heaven.? (Matthew 10:32)

*The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit that we are the children of God. (Romans 8:16)

*John 3:16

*The Lord is my Shepherd..and..Yea though I walk thru the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil for Thou art with me. (Psalm 23)

To each of these promises, Lottie answered "YES! I BELIEVE THAT!" I encouraged her to focus her thoughts on the FACTS of God's Word and not on her feelings.

Lottie didn't die at that time. A few months later we were at the Ashland Nursing Home sharing songs, Scripture and meditation on a Sunday afternoon. Lottie invited me to her room. "Come in and shut the door." Then she said, "I have some good news. I'm not afraid to die anymore since I started looking at Jesus and His Word!" We rejoiced together and thanked Jesus in prayer for that certain assurance that comes when we TRUST HIM and HIS WORD. At that time I asked permission to use her story in days ahead. She said, "Fine, if it will help someone else." She did depart this life at the age of 88 just a few days after that conversation.

MUCH RESPONSIBILITY goes with "mountain moving."

One person said to me "If I had that kind of power I would empty all the nursing homes, hospitals and cemeteries."

My answer was and is:

Friend, you do not know the Mind of God, the Word of God or the Power of God. For you are suggesting that which Jesus Himself never did--restore health to all the infirm, heal all the sick or raise all the dead. In particular our Lord performed 35 miracles according to the Gospels. These miracles fall into four groups: #1) Power over nature-7; #2) Power over demons-7; #3) Power over disease-16; #4) People restored to life-3. I add this further interesting note regarding "faith" and Jesus'

Miracles: When "faith" is mentioned, who is it attributed to? The recipient-six times, Others-13 times; Jesus own free will-15 times.

The responsibility that goes with exercising God's power against the mountains of life is VERY GREAT. My first BIG LESSON in "mountain moving" came following our son, Lynn's death, in 1971. I engaged the Lord in a conversation concerning Lynn's body.

"Are all things possible with You God?"

The Lord answered with a verse of Scripture: "With men it is impossible, but not with God; for with God all things are possible." (Mark 10:17)

"Lord, is what You said in Mark 11:22-24 about speaking to mountains to be cast into the sea still possible?"

The Lord said--"I watch over my Word to perform it." (Jeremiah 1:12)

"Lord, if I speak to my son's body believing in your Name that he will come forth, will it happen?"

The Lord's answer--"Forever...(My Word)...is settled in heaven." (Psalm 119:89)

Then I said: "Lord I'm ready to do so."

The Lord replied--"First roll away the stone." (John 11:29)

I wrestled for many days with His request:

1. Would He i-f I did? My conclusion beyond the shadow of a doubt--YES HE WOULD!
2. What would it take to "roll away the stone" of this ground-level mausoleum?--hammers? chisels? dynamite?
3. Would my son meet obstacles on this Road of Life that would totally trip him up? The Lord reminded me of a prayer I had prayed on the night of Lynn's departure--*Lord, whatever the cost, please don't ever let any of our children be lost.* I could clearly see that I would have to play God if I followed this "mountain

moving venture" through. I wasn't equipped to play God.

MY ANSWER: "No Lord, I will NOT roll away the stone."

Here are some GUIDELINES and SAFEGUARDS in attempting to speak to life's mountains:

- #1. Discern by searching the Bible what God's Word says about this "mountain" that I want to move. Find the promise, the command in context that speaks to it.
- #2. Discern by prayer and meditation the Will of God in this matter. Questions to ask--How will this further the Kingdom? How will this glorify God?
- #3. Discern by prayer and contemplation my personal motive in the moving of this "mountain."
 - 1) Self-serving?
 - 2) Ambitious?
 - 3) To tempt God?
 - 4) To trust God?
 - 5) To glorify God and extend the Kingdom?

Personal motives one, two and three above will bring defeat. Proper motives are suggested in numbers four and five.

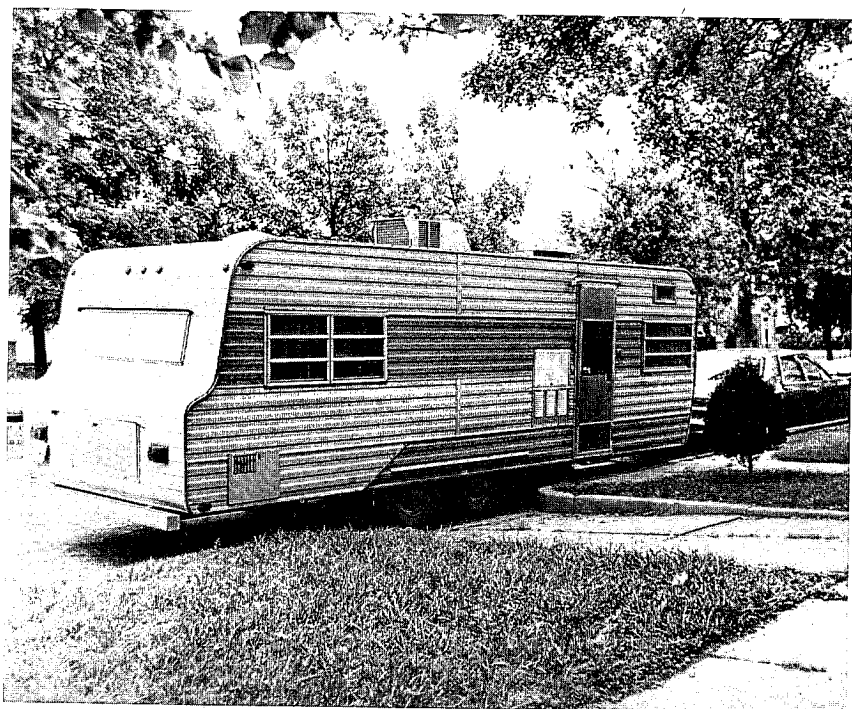
- #4. Practice much privately before ever attempting to use in a public way.
- #5. Don't "cast your pearls before swine" (Matthew 7:6) by bragging or much talking about your victories before non-believers in the world or unbelievers in the church.

George Muller of a century ago was a mountain moving man for God. Most of us remember him for feeding and clothing over 2,000 orphans in Bristow, England by prayer and faith. There are many vivid prayer-faith stories of how he moved mountains for God. This one has blessed me much.

On one occasion Muller traveled to Canada for a speaking engagement. Dense fog settled upon the ocean and the uncertain vessel floated motionless on a silent sea. Soon Muller knocked on the captain's door expressing "I must be in Toronto by Sunday." The captain quickly replied, "In no way can this vessel move without assuming great danger of colliding with another"

"I understand" said Mr. Muller, "but in forty years of Christian service I have not failed to keep an appointment. I must be in Toronto Sunday!" He then asked the captain to join in a special prayer of faith to speak to this fog in Jesus' Name that it would lift. Embarrassed, the captain agreed. They knelt and Muller calmly asked God to lift the hindering fog. Somewhat intimidated, the captain started to say a simple prayer to please his anxious passenger. He no sooner began when Muller stopped him. He gently touched the captain's shoulder saying: "You need not pray. You do not believe."

Startled, the seafarer rose to leave the cabin with this unusual passenger. Walking out on deck, a look of sheer astonishment spread over the captain's face. The fog had completely lifted. George Muller silently stood by with a "Just as I expected" look.(4)



Our Wheel House
The LORD PROVIDED in 1979
Thru Dr. Bob & Donna Starr

FAITH ALIVE IN HEART, HOME and CHURCH
NOTES - Chapter 9

1. Penned by Rebecca S. Johnson of Wichita, Kansas on December 27, 1988.
2. Ibid.
3. Ibid.
4. A page out of my file, author and source unknown. George Muller's life spanned almost a century from 1805 to 1898.



"Follow the Leader"
Miss Elizabeth - Age 5