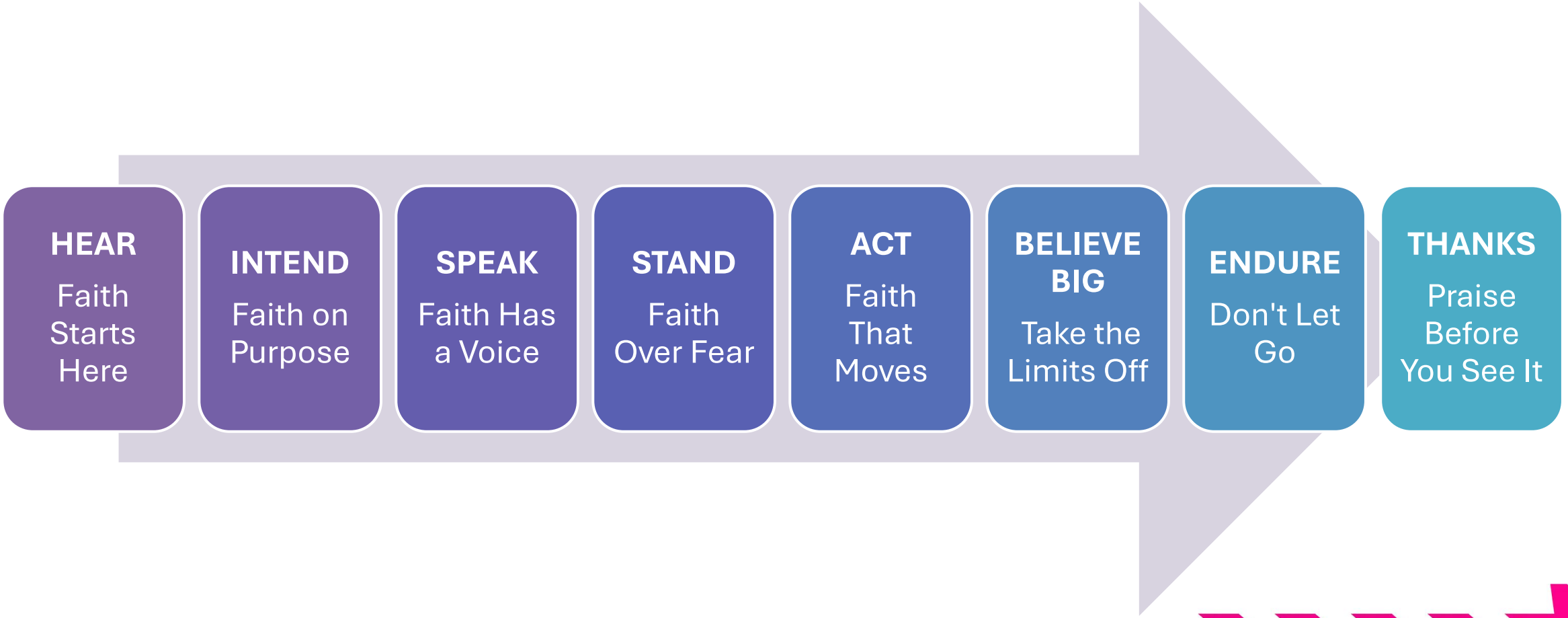
FAITH FORWARD
8-WEEK BIBLE STUDY SERIES

Believe Bigger. Speak Bolder. Live by Faith.

SERIES OVERVIEW

Romans 1:17 And the just shall LIVE by FAITH



WEEK 5:
FAITH THAT MOVES:
PUT SOME ACTION ON IT!

FAITH FORWARD BIBLE STUDY SERIES





HAVE YOU EVER SAID YOU BELIEVED SOMETHING, BUT YOUR ACTIONS SHOWED SOMETHING DIFFERENT?

You believe physical movement is important	But never exercise
Saving money matters	But never develop a budget
Prayer changes things	But prayer is the last response

Can we genuinely believe something and still struggle to act on it?

JAMES 2:14-17 KJV

14 What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him?

15 If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food,

16 And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit?

17 **Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.**

FAITH WITHOUT WORKS IS DEAD

Faith Must Be More Than a Statement

- James challenges believers who say the right things, but do not demonstrate what they profess.

Faith Produces Visible Fruit

- Our obedience, compassion, generosity, and willingness to serve demonstrate what is happening in our hearts.

Works don’t purchase salvation, they demonstrate living faith

- Ephesians 2:8-9 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.

FAITH MOVES BEFORE IT SEES

Hebrews 11:7-8

Noah- Faith Builds

- God warned Noah about things not yet seen.
- Noah responded by preparing the ark.
- He **built** something because he **believed** God.

Abraham- Faith Goes

- Abraham obeyed when he was called to go, even though he didn't know where he was going
- Faith doesn't require us to know every detail before we move

Faith Listens for God's Instruction

Faith Obeys Without Requiring Every Detail

Faith Moves in the Direction of God's Word



Noah Built

Abraham Went

Caleb Possessed

NUMBERS 13:25-30 KJV

25 And they returned from searching of the land after forty days.

26 And they went and came to Moses, and to Aaron, and to all the congregation of the children of Israel, unto the wilderness of Paran, to Kadesh; and brought back word unto them, and unto all the congregation, and shewed them the fruit of the land.

27 And they told him, and said, We came unto the land whither thou sentest us, and surely it floweth with milk and honey; and this is the fruit of it.

28 Nevertheless the people be strong that dwell in the land, and the cities are walled, and very great: and moreover we saw the children of Anak there.

29 The Amalekites dwell in the land of the south: and the Hittites, and the Jebusites, and the Amorites, dwell in the mountains: and the Canaanites dwell by the sea, and by the coast of Jordan.

30 And Caleb stilled the people before Moses, and said, **Let us go up at once, and possess it; for we are well able to overcome it.**

FAITH THAT TAKES TERRITORY

LET US	GO UP	AT ONCE	TAKE POSSESSION
• Caleb was ready to participate	• Faith required movement	• Caleb was willing to act without unnecessary delay	• He believed God's promise called for action

Caleb wasn't satisfied with just discussing the promise, he was ready to MOVE in obedience even when the majority was afraid.

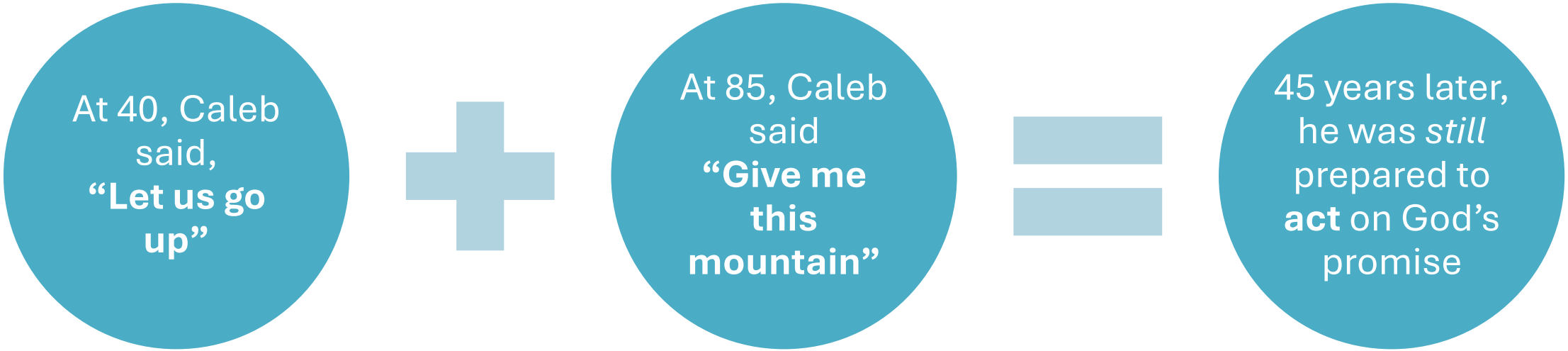


JOSHUA 14:7-14 NKJV

[7] I *was* forty years old when Moses the servant of the LORD sent me from Kadesh Barnea to spy out the land, and I brought back word to him as *it was* in my heart. [8] Nevertheless my brethren who went up with me made the heart of the people melt, **but I wholly followed the LORD my God**. [9] So Moses swore on that day, saying, '**Surely the land where your foot has trodden shall be your inheritance and your children's forever, because you have wholly followed the LORD my God.'** [10] And now, behold, the LORD has kept me alive, as He said, these forty-five years, ever since the LORD spoke this word to Moses while Israel wandered in the wilderness; and now, here I am this day, eighty-five years old. [11] **As yet I *am as* strong this day as on the day that Moses sent me; just as my strength *was* then, so now *is* my strength for war, both for going out and for coming in.** [12] **Now therefore, give me this mountain of which the LORD spoke in that day**; for you heard in that day how the Anakim *were* there, and *that* the cities *were* great *and* fortified. It may be that the LORD *will be* with me, and I shall be able to drive them out as the LORD said."

[13] And Joshua blessed him, and gave Hebron to Caleb the son of Jephunneh as an inheritance. [14] Hebron therefore became the inheritance of Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite to this day, because he wholly followed the LORD God of Israel.

CALEB'S FAITH WAS STILL MOVING 45 YEARS LATER



Faith that moves must also be Faith that ENDURES

WHAT'S YOUR MOUNTAIN?

My Mountain (The challenge before me):_____

God's Word (The scripture guiding my response):_____

My Corresponding Action (What I will do this week):_____



FAITH REQUIRES CORRESPONDING ACTION

Mark 2:1-12 NIV

A few days later, when Jesus again entered Capernaum, the people heard that he had come home. 2 They gathered in such large numbers that there was no room left, not even outside the door, and he preached the word to them. 3 Some men came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, **carried** by four of them. 4 Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, **they made an opening in the roof** above Jesus by digging through it and then lowered the mat the man was lying on. 5 **When Jesus saw their faith**, he said to the paralyzed man, "Son, your sins are forgiven."

6 Now some teachers of the law were sitting there, thinking to themselves, 7 "Why does this fellow talk like that? He's blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?"

8 Immediately Jesus knew in his spirit that this was what they were thinking in their hearts, and he said to them, "Why are you thinking these things? 9 Which is easier: to say to this paralyzed man, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up, take your mat and walk'? 10 But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins." So he said to the man, 11 **"I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home." 12 He got up, took his mat and walked out in full view of them all. This amazed everyone and they praised God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"**

FAITH REQUIRES CORRESPONDING ACTION

Their Faith had a Destination

The friends picked up their friend and carried him to Jesus.

Faith moves us beyond good intentions into purposeful action.

Their Faith Encountered Opposition

The house was full and there was nowhere to enter, but they still found a way in

Sometimes corresponding action requires persistence, creativity, and determination.

Jesus SAW their Faith

Their faith was visible through their actions.

Faith begins in the heart, but is evident through what we do

FAITH CHECK

HEARING

- What instruction from God's Word do I already know?

BELIEVING

- Do I believe God's Word enough to obey it?

SAYING

- Have I been talking about obedience instead of actually obeying?

DOING

- What am I going to **DO** about what I heard?

FAITH DECLARATION

I declare that my faith is ALIVE, ACTIVE, and MOVING!

I am not just a hearer of God's Word. I AM A DOER!

Like Noah, I will BUILD in obedience to God's instructions.

Like Abraham, I will GO when God directs my steps.

Like Caleb, I will STAND on God's promises, face my giants with courage, and move forward in faith!

Like the four friends, I will not allow obstacles to become excuses. My faith will move me to help others!

I refuse to let FEAR, DELAY, DOUBT, or EXCUSES keep me from obeying God.

What I HEAR, I will BELIEVE.

What I BELIEVE, I will SPEAK.

And what God instructs me to DO, I will DO!

MY FAITH WILL NOT STAND STILL!

I DON'T JUST TALK FAITH — I WALK BY FAITH!

