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FAITH CONCEPTS IN CONCERT

INTRODUCTION: For 40 years God has been teaching me truths about faith. Today I want to show you my favorite twelve “faith concepts”—all from the words of Jesus. Each concept can operate individually and if applied, can single handedly cause you to receive a blessing, answered prayer or outright miracle from God. However, it is best to have all twelve working together.

You’ve heard the term “synergy.” An example is that if one horse could pull 1,000 pounds and a second horse could pull 1,000 pounds—team the horses together and they can pull 3,000 pounds. Similarly, when faith concepts are teamed together there is a syncretistic effect. Our goal as disciples of Christ is to live in such a way that all twelve of these concepts are working for us together—all the time.

HERE ARE THE TWELVE FAITH CONCEPTS. MEMORIZE THEM.

1. PROBLEMS ARE RAW MATERIAL FOR MIRACLES. Every miracle is made from two things—a problem and the grace of God. You cannot have a miracle without first having a problem.

**** When Jesus saw a man blind from birth his disciples wanted to know who to blame—him or his parents. Jesus said, **“Neither this man nor his parents sinned,”** said Jesus, **“but this happened so that the work of God might be displayed in his life”** (John 9:3).

Therefore—we must NOT grumble about problems but rather count them all joy as perfectly good problems—all capable of bringing glory to God when they are converted to miracles through faith in God. We can never get a miracle until we STOP complaining and start PRAISING God. When we complain, grumble or worry we miss the very first step of faith.

2. GET RID OF INTERNAL PROBLEMS FIRST. There are only two kinds of problems—internal and external. If we get rid of the internal problems first God will help us turn the external problems into blessings and miracles. Jesus said, **“Blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup and dish, and then the outside also will be clean”** (Matthew 23:26).

The inside of the cup and dish means—cleaning up our minds and hearts. If we do this first God will help us clean up external problems. They will convert to miracles and blessings. This is why we must value having a sweet spirit—one free from critical attitudes toward others, bitterness, self-pity, anger, greed, lust, covetousness, arrogance and selfishness. The Holy Spirit is able to give us “fruits of the Spirit” so that the very character of Jesus is manifested in our lives. Remember, “Jesus style virtues mean Jesus style victories.”

3. NEVER BE AFRAID OF AN EXTERNAL PROBLEM.

Jesus said, **“You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come”** (Matthew 24:6). Jesus forbids us to get

alarmed over ANY external problem. But He DOES want us to get alarmed if we sense internal problems like sadness, laziness, lack of godly ambition and things like that.

All over America I've asked, "Which kinds of problems are Christians MORE concerned about—internal or external problems?" Everyone always says, "External Problems." No one ever says "internal." This MUST be switched around. Train yourself to get alarmed over internal problems and at the same time train yourself to NOT fret about external problems. Sure—they are dangerous. But they CANNOT send a soul to hell! Only an internal problem could cause someone to go to hell. An external problem cannot hinder your prayers. Only an internal problem can do that. An external problem cannot cut off your fellowship with God. Only an internal problem could do that.

God said to me once, "Never be afraid of the devil if he's outside of you. Only be afraid of the devil if you let him in on the inside a little bit at a time. Then be terrified of the devil."

4. GOD IS ALWAYS IN CONTROL.

***** When Jesus was on trial the Roman Governor asked, "Do you refuse to speak to me? Don't you realize I have power to free you or crucify you?" Jesus answered, "**You would have no power over me if it were not given to you from above. Therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin**" (John 19:11). It looked like Satan was in control of Judas who betrayed him, Peter who denied him, the disciples who forsook him, the Pharisees who were stirring up the crowd, the crowd who was screaming for his crucifixion, the soldiers who would kill an innocent man for a pay check and the trial judge who said, "What is truth?" It didn't look like God was in control of anything—and yet this was all planned by God from before creation. Rev. 13:8 says that Jesus was the **Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.**

Once God said to me, "Don't you remember that Jesus said, 'Not even a sparrow falls to the ground apart from the will of my heavenly Father'? (Matthew 10:29) I'm in a lot more control than you are giving me credit for." God so closely controls things that we can be assured every one of our trials is something He has allowed for the purposes of causing us to come closer to Him and grow stronger so that we will overcome into some new victory and abundance.

5. MIRACLES ARE FOUND AND THE SEEKER FINDS.

Jesus said, "**Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened**" (Matthew 7:7-8). Don Cox taught me, "The miracle rarely comes to the desk where you are pounding your fist. God hears your prayer, parachutes the answer in, and it lands in the bushes someplace. You have to pray, then praise God that He has answered you, and then GO LOOKING for your miracle." He also said, "Looking for your miracle is the most fun part of prayer."

You may be waiting for a miracle to come to you. But real faith INITIATES. By asking, seeking and knocking you get your faith in motion. Even if you look in the wrong place it will show you are acting in faith—and God will guide and help you find that miracle.

6. THE POSSIBILITIES OF GOD ARE PRE-PLACED AND NEARBY.

In Christ we've been redeemed into the infinite possibilities of God. Jesus made this very clear. Matt. 19:26 **Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."** Mark 9:23 **"If you can'?" said Jesus. "Everything is possible for him who believes."**

God taught me that these possibilities are "pre-placed and nearby." We see this when Jesus wanted money with which to pay a Temple tax. He told Peter to go to a lake, throw in a line and catch a fish that would have a four drachma coin in it's mouth—enough to pay for two people's taxes. This possibility was pre-placed—and nearby (Matthew 17:27). Again, when Jesus needed a room in which to have an all-important meeting with His disciples just before His betrayal and arrest this possibility

was pre-placed and nearby. Luke 22:8 Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, “Go and make preparations for us to eat the Passover.” V9 “Where do you want us to prepare for it?” they asked.

Luke 22:10-12 He replied, “As you enter the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him to the house that he enters, and say to the owner of the house, ‘The Teacher asks: Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?’ He will show you a large upper room, all furnished. Make preparations there.”

We must never forget this. We are redeemed into Christ’s infinite possibilities and those are pre-placed and all around us. We may not have money—but we have pre-placed possibilities.

7. THE BIGGER THE PROBLEM, THE MORE THE GRACE AND THE BIGGER THE MIRACLE.

Jesus rejoiced that His biggest problem was going to turn into His biggest miracle.

As soon as Judas had taken the bread, he went out. And it was night. When he was gone, Jesus said, “Now is the Son of Man glorified and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him, God will glorify the Son in himself, and will glorify him at once” (John 13:30-32).

He could have said, “Now is the Son of Man betrayed, forsaken, arrested, falsely tried, tortured and murdered.” But He knew that this biggest of all problems would be mixed with the grace of God causing it to result in his GLORIFICATION upon rising from the dead.

Remember, little problems turn into little miracles. Medium sized problems turn into medium sized miracles. Great big problems turn into great big miracles.

8. YOU HAVE FAVOR WITH GOD THROUGH CHRIST. USE IT BY ASKING.

Luke 4:17-19 **The scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written: “The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”**

Since we are in Christ we are in God’s favor. We have favor with God through Christ. Favor means that if you ask someone for something, and it is within their ability to give it—they WILL give it to you.

Favor with God can be transferred to people. Nehemiah had favor with God and this was transferred to the King of Persia. Nehemiah asked him for funds and authority to rebuild Jerusalem. The King gave it. When Jesus said, “Ask and you shall receive” He didn’t say just to ask God. God may direct you to ask some person for help. The favor you have with God will then be transferred to a person.

If you ask and don’t have favor—you don’t get it. If you have favor and you don’t ask you don’t get it. If you have favor and you ask—you will receive whatever you asked for.

9. WHEN GOD NAMES IT YOU SHOULD CLAIM IT.

Faith comes when God reveals His will. Thus, real faith cannot be achieved independently from God. Real faith always teams with God. When God names it—revealing His will—we must claim it—doing our part of the faith teamwork. If we name it and claim it ourselves we are operating independently from God. Such “faith” is devilish, occult, and repulsive to God. Peter saw Jesus walking on water. He cried out, **“Lord, if it’s you tell me to come to you on the water.” Jesus said, “Come.” Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus** (Matthew 14:28-29).

God named it by revealing His will through Jesus. Peter had to get out of the boat to claim this miracle—acting on the revealed will of God.

If God names it—and you don’t claim it, it will make God angry. God’s will must be clear in the matter. He doesn’t have to speak to you to “name” it. You might know His will by years of close

fellowship and being full of the Word of God. You may know His will by the inner witness of the Holy Spirit. But only when it's God's will can you claim it.

1John 5:14-15 This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him.

Therefore—we must take responsibility for finding out God's will! It is not faith to say, "I know God could do it if He wants to." FAITH KNOWS GOD'S WILL.

10. KEEP REJECTING FEAR AND KEEP CHOOSING FAITH.

Matt. 14:30-31 But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!" Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?"

When God reveals His will he serves us "faith on a platter." It's still a choice—do we take it or not? The devil reacts to God and serves us "fear on a platter." He hopes we'll choose fear instead of faith. God cannot make you take faith and the devil cannot make you take fear. Therefore—choose faith and keep on rejecting fear.

11. KEEP ENLARGING YOUR FUNNEL OF LOVE.

Jesus could easily catch the revelation of God's will because He loved the Father so much.

John 14:31 But the world must learn that I love the Father and that I do exactly what my Father has commanded me.

John 5:20 For the Father loves the Son and shows him all he does. Yes, to your amazement he will show him even greater things than these.

**** If you had an empty pop-bottle and you stood out in a rainstorm trying to catch rain the small opening would catch some rain. However, it would take a long time to fill the bottle with water. If you put a funnel in the top of the bottle—the funnel would catch more rain and the bottle would fill up more quickly. We are the bottle—vessels meant to hold faith in God. The revelation of God's will is always coming down—like rain. We "catch" this rain of the revelation of God's will in proportion to the size of our love. If we love God deeply and love people deeply—we have a big funnel of love.

Gal. 5:6 For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love.

Allow God to give you love for the less fortunate. Love orphans, widows, native pastors and evangelists. Love your family members. Love your enemies. Love your Christian brothers and sisters. Love God's Word. Love to spend time with God in prayer and fellowship. The more loving you are the easier it will be to "catch" the revelation of God's will. Then you'll be able to claim whatever God has named.

12. NO MATTER WHAT GOD HAS NAMED, YOU'LL ONLY GET AS MUCH AS YOU CLAIM.

God "named" let's say, a 40-step miracle for Peter to get out on the water to Jesus. It would have also been 40 steps back to the boat. Peter didn't claim it all. He took several miraculous steps—each step being a miracle—and then lost the rest. Jesus rescued him but rebuked him. Matt. 14:31 Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. **"You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?"**

A very clear example is found in 1 Kings 13:14-19 and verses 24-25. God named complete destruction of a Syrian army but the King only "claimed" three victories—and that's all he got!

NOW, LET'S LOOK AT THESE CONCEPTS AS THEY WORK IN CONCERT.

Acts 27-28 and the life of the Apostle Paul.

Jesus appeared to Paul after his arrest in Jerusalem. Acts 23:11 **The following night the Lord stood near Paul and said, “Take courage! As you have testified about me in Jerusalem, so you must also testify in Rome.”**

Paul’s arrest shows Faith Concept #1 and #4. This problem would work out for good to Paul. His arrest actually saved his life from a murder plot. Had he not been arrested, he would have been killed. God was in control of all of this. We also see Faith Concept #9 at work. God revealed His will that Paul must live at least until he had testified about Jesus in Rome. Thus, Paul KNEW he couldn’t die outside of Rome.

Because 40 men were waiting to ambush Paul and kill him the Roman officer transferred him to Caesarea Philippi. Paul was kept in jail for two years because the crooked Roman Governor wanted a bribe to let him out. Faith Concept #9 and #10 were working together. The devil no doubt said to him, “You are going to rot in this jail. Your judge won’t let you out without a bribe and you don’t believe in that. So you are going to die in this prison.” Paul had to claim what God had named through that vision of Jesus, “No. I am going to live and testify about Jesus in Rome.” He kept rejecting fear and kept choosing faith—claiming what God had named.

Finally, the governor was replaced and the new Governor asked if Paul would stand trial in Jerusalem. Paul appealed to Caesar. Thus, he was sent to Rome.

Paul was loaded on board a ship but received a revelation from God that the ship would run into a terrible storm at sea. He warned the men, but no one would listen. So a BIG external problem was headed his way. It wasn’t greed, lust, bitterness or laziness. It was JUST a hurricane of a storm! One of those “all things” that work together for good to those who love God. (Romans 8:28).

Faith Concepts 2 and 3 are greatly at work in this story. Paul is going to encounter a terrible storm, a dangerous shipwreck, a snakebite and a plague. He’s going to live through all of these and every problem will convert to a miracle. Faith concept #2 is greatly at work. Paul was a very sweet spirited man. He could have hated the Jews who followed him and stirred up trouble, causing him to be whipped and beaten so many times. He wrote, “Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one. Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was stoned” (2Cor. 11:25). He could have been filled with self-pity, anger, resentment, revenge, hatred, bitterness and rage against these people. Instead he wrote, **“For I could wish that I myself were cursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, those of my own race”** (Rom. 9:3). He loved them so much that if he could have been able to, he would have gone to hell so that they could have gone to heaven. That proves he had cleaned the inside of his cup and dish. This sweet spirited man had no internal problems. With the help of the Holy Spirit he had conquered the resentment he once felt—and the self-pity he must have once felt.

In the midst of that terrible storm Paul sought God. Faith Concept #5—the seeker finds. Concept #8 was at work—Paul was asking for a favor from God—a fresh revelation of His will. This was revealed to him by the appearance of an angel who said, **“Do not be afraid, Paul. You must stand trial before Caesar; and God has graciously given you the lives of all who sail with you”** (Acts 27:24). This is Faith Concept #9 again. Now God was naming a shipwreck on an island and that all would be saved.

Paul had to CLAIM this miracle which he did the next morning as he yelled above the storm, Acts 27:21-26 “Men, you should have taken my advice not to sail from Crete; then you would have spared yourselves this damage and loss. But now I urge you to keep up your courage, because not one of you will be lost; only the ship will be destroyed. Last night an angel of the God whose I am and whom I serve stood beside me and said, ‘Do not be afraid, Paul. You must stand trial before Caesar; and God has graciously given you the lives of all who sail with you.’ So keep up your courage, men, for I have faith in God that it will happen just as he told me. Nevertheless, we must run aground on some island.”

Faith Concept #7 is at work here. The bigger the problem, the bigger the miracle. It was a big miracle to get 273 unsaved sailors and soldiers to listen to the Gospel. By foretelling the storm and the

shipwreck—and that none on them would die Paul’s credibility was supernaturally established with these men. They were ready to believe everything he said about salvation. God said He would give Paul the “souls” of those men—so I believe they all became Christians through these series of events.

Faith Concept #6 was at work. The island they would crash into was pre-placed and nearby. Remember, The possibilities of God are pre-placed and nearby.

When the men survived the shipwreck and were warming themselves by a fire a pit viper bit Paul and got its fangs stuck in his wrist bones. He had to shake it off into the fire. When Paul didn’t die the natives were all ready to listen to everything he said. Another problem had converted to a blessing. But Faith Concepts #9 and #10 were surely at work again. The devil would have said, “You are going to die on Malta. That venom is on it’s way to your heart right now.”

Paul had to say, “Jesus said I’m going to Rome and the angel said I’m going to Rome and will preach to Caesar himself. So I can’t die here! He had to keep on rejecting fear and keep choosing faith—claiming what God had named! Faith Concept #12 was also at work. He could have survived the hurricane, the shipwreck and the snakebite—and then given up and died of the plague that came next! Paul was mining his claim—getting everything God had named, not just a portion of it. When many on the island were getting influenza with a high fever and dysentery Paul knew he couldn’t catch that and die. He boldly prayed for the sick and they were all healed. One problem after another turned into a blessing for Paul—helping him win all the soldiers, sailors and natives of Malta to Christ.

We know Paul had a tremendous love for God, for all the gentiles whom he wanted to bring to Christ, love for all the churches and love for his enemies. This gave him a great “funnel of love” with which to catch the revelation of God’s will.

Also, faith concepts, #2 and #9 seem especially at work. His sweet spirit was like a catalyst for all the other faith concepts and he boldly claimed everything God named!

NEW LET’S LOOK AT 1 SAMUEL 30 AND THE LIFE OF DAVID.

David was living in Ziklag, a little town the Philistine king had given to him. He wanted to go to battle with the Philistines against King Saul. The rulers of the Philistines rebuked the king and told him to send David back to Ziklag because they suspected he would turn on them in battle. No doubt, David WOULD have turned on them in battle to save King Saul and his friend, Jonathan.

When they got back home after a two and a half day march they found that their city was burned, all their property stolen and their families kidnapped! The men were so angry at David for wanting to save King Saul when he could have killed him twice that they wanted to stone David. Clearly, they were not in faith at all. They were only looking for someone to blame and saw the problem as only a problem—not raw material for a miracle.

However, God was in control. All this was allowed as a way to move David into becoming King. But it didn’t LOOK like God was in control. With the men wanting to stone David, it LOOKED like the enemy was in control of everything! Not so.

David’s biggest problem was an EXTERNAL ONE. He had a loving and loyal heart that honored God in all things. He didn’t have internal problems. So this biggest of all problems would have to turn into his biggest miracle, (Faith Concept #7).

The men were very alarmed at this external problem. Remember, you cannot get a miracle if you are alarmed at external problems. David didn’t get one either until he quit weeping and instead went to prayer. He had no friends, no home, no family and no possessions—but he still had FAVOR WITH GOD (faith Concept #8). He sought God in prayer (Faith Concept #5) and received a revelation of God’s will. God said, 1Sam. 30:8 **David inquired of the LORD, “Shall I pursue this raiding party? Will I overtake them?” “Pursue them,” he answered. “You will certainly overtake them and succeed in the rescue.”**

God served “faith on a platter” to David when He named complete victory. But David had to CLAIM it by rallying his men and pursuing. The six hundred men came to the Ravine of Besor and 200 men were too weak to cross it. They had marched all night and then wept all day—and all that

lamenting about an external problem had worn them out. Only 400 crossed the brook of Besor. That word in Hebrew means “cheerfulness.” I believe your miracle is always on the other side of cheerfulness.

Did it do David any good to walk in love toward his enemy, King Saul? Twice he had spared his life. He could have killed him in a cave where David and his men were hiding and Saul had come into the cave to relieve himself. David had cut off the corner of his robe but spared his life. Then again, David and his cousin had come into Saul’s camp at night and taken Saul’s spear and water jug. They could have easily killed him in that encounter. David’s men thought all that loyalty was a waste of time. But when it came time to hear from God—it really paid to have a sweet spirit that could hear the voice of God. No internal problems combined with a great big funnel of love helped David HEAR the voice of God that supplied all the faith he needed.

As the men pursued the enemy they were SEEKING a miracle. They would have to go to the miracle. It wasn’t going to come to them. (Faith concept #5—the seeker finds. Soon they found a great example of a PRE-PLACED POSSIBILITY. One Amalekite raider had an Egyptian slave. When the man got sick he was just cruelly abandoned to die. He was left with no food or water. God helped the man to live and when David and his men found this Egyptian he was happy to guide them to the enemy’s camp. He hadn’t eaten anything in three days and nights—which means he was PRE-PLACED by God BEFORE those Amalekites ever raided Ziklag.

David and his men came upon the enemy camp at twilight and Scriptures say they attacked and rescued everyone. Only 400 of the enemy got away. David only had 400 men, meaning, they attacked a much larger force but succeeded through the element of surprise and God’s help.

However, David’s men had marched 2 ½ days to get to Ziklag and then marched most the next day to find the camp of the Amalekites. Then they fought all night long. By this we see that they were completely mining their claim. God said, “You will certainly overtake them and succeed in the rescue.” But that took real effort to keep on fighting when they must have been exhausted. They fully mined their claim and got everything God named.

These men also had to keep resisting fear (Faith Concept #10). No doubt when they came upon that camp they saw that they were vastly outnumbered by the Amalekites. But they rejected that fear. The devil probably told them that some of their love ones would be killed in the battle. They resisted all the opportunities they had to fear and chose faith instead.

The big problem had turned into a big miracle because they not only got all their love ones back and all their possessions back—they were enriched by a massive amount of plunder taken from where ever the Amalekites had raided earlier.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER A MIRACLE DETERMINES YOUR NEXT MIRACLE.

***** Notice how David keeps on practicing faith concepts even after the miracle. These attitudes and actions are going to position him for the NEXT big problem to convert to a blessing.

1Sam. 30:21 Then David came to the two hundred men who had been too exhausted to follow him and who were left behind at the Besor Ravine. They came out to meet David and the people with him. As David and his men approached, he greeted them. But all the evil men and troublemakers among David’s followers said, “Because they did not go out with us, we will not share with them the plunder we recovered. However, each man may take his wife and children and go.”

1Sam. 30:23-24 David replied, “No, my brothers, you must not do that with what the LORD has given us. He has protected us and handed over to us the forces that came against us. Who will listen to what you say? The share of the man who stayed with the supplies is to be the same as that of him who went down to the battle. All will share alike.”

1Sam. 30:25 David made this a statute and ordinance for Israel from that day to this.

David was avoiding getting an internal problem of a critical spirit towards his weaker men, and the internal problems of selfishness and greed. He was also enlarging the funnel of love by showing graciousness to these weaker soldiers and allowing them to share in the plunder. This tenderness of heart would be useful to David the NEXT time he desperately needed to receive a revelation of God's will by hearing God speak! Notice too, that he was giving glory to God for the victory. After each success it's super important to give all the glory to God and go back to a humble dependency upon God. That's a major part of loving God—always giving Him the glory!

WHAT DAVID DID NEXT ALSO SHOWED THAT HE WAS POSITIONING HIMSELF FOR THE NEXT MIRACLE.

1Sam. 30:26-31 When David arrived in Ziklag, he sent some of the plunder to the elders of Judah, who were his friends, saying, "Here is a present for you from the plunder of the LORD's enemies." He sent it to those who were in Bethel, Ramoth Negev and Jattir; to those in Aroer, Siphmoth, Eshtemoa and Racal; to those in the towns of the Jerahmeelites and the Kenites; to those in Hormah, Bor Ashan, Athach and Hebron; and to those in all the other places where David and his men had roamed.

Here we see David showing great graciousness and gratitude to all his friends who had helped him in the past. He didn't hoard this wealth—but gave much of it to his friends in gratitude for what they had done for him in the past.

This resulted in these elders using their influence to get him named King in Hebron in the territory of Judah. King Saul had been slain in the battle with the Philistines. These elders were looking for a new king. David's generous gifts just reminded them of his outstanding leadership abilities and the promise God had made to him many years before—that he would become King. This generous behavior is another way of **KEEPING FAVOR WITH GOD**. Favor with God can be lost if we use it selfishly.

Finally, David kept right on mining his claim. God had "named" the kingship for him when he was just a teenager when the Prophet Samuel had anointed him in a secret meeting. He had to keep resisting fear and choosing faith for many years—years in which King Saul tried repeatedly to kill him—and then finally when even his own men wanted to kill him. David He became King 1Chr. 18:14 **David reigned over all Israel, doing what was just and right for all his people.**

CLOSING

What are you doing to set yourself up for your next miracle? Can you adjust your attitude and stop complaining about perfectly good problems? Could you even **PRAISE GOD** for these miracles in raw material form? Can you stop fretting about external problems and ask the Holy Spirit to help you **CLEAN UP** every internal problem? Can you start acting like God really is in control—even of your most whacky situations? Can you open your eyes and look for a miracle and a pre-placed possibility? Can you increase your love for God and people? Ask yourself—who could I be gracious to like David. He was gracious to the weaker soldiers and gracious to his friends. Ask yourself, "Who could I encourage and to whom could I show gratitude?" Could you try harder to mine your claim—like David and his men who gave it their best physical effort—marching all day and fighting all night? Could you earnestly seek God for the revelation of His will and then **CLAIM** what He names?

MY PRAYER FOR YOU: Heavenly Father, we earnestly desire that our lives would be producing the beautiful spiritual music of faith concepts in concert—all of them working together to bring massive glory to Your name. Please coach us on a daily basis giving us reminders, thoughts and especially the revelation of Your will. Forgive us for the grumbling and unbelief we've manifested as we complained about problems. Thank you for the pre-placed possibilities all around us. Dear Lord, help us to find them and we vow to give you all the glory! Thank you for your loving control of everything that touches our lives. In Jesus' name. Amen.

I LOVE YOU. GOD BLESS YOU.