



# words

faith is accurate speaking

## JesusSmart Guide

inside: Jesus defined faith as accurate speaking sourced in prayer.

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words: faith is accurate speaking



## **MOUNTAIN-MOVER**

In Christ, you have the potential to move mountains. Think of mountains as anything standing in the way of heaven's design for you ... your personal life and your place of influence. Jesus clearly defined faith as accurate, authoritative words which are sourced in prayer. And all of it rises from a foundation of love .

## **BONUS: COMEBACK TIME!**

Jesus modeled for us how we can recondition any environment, pray through, and then speak to a situation to release restoration. It's comeback time!

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## **CHRIST CAN DEVELOP YOU INTO A MOUNTAIN-MOVER!**

You have the potential to move mountains out of your way by accessing and releasing extraordinary power!

Jesus modeled and taught that faith is **saying** that flows from **praying**. And it's all built on the foundation of **love**. We can move mountains by speaking to them in a true way!

When it came to faith, it's amazing to consider to whom Jesus gave his highest praise ...

It wasn't Peter or another disciple. And it sure wasn't the religious establishment in Jerusalem—Pharisees, Sadducees, Essenes, scribes, and priests.

It was to a humble, Gentile Roman centurion who understood how **authority worked (alignment)**, and how it was released through **impactful speech (belief-filled declaration)**. See Matthew 8.

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## THE IMMENSE POWER OF A WORD

Yes, faith is belief and trust. It's obedience. And faith is dead without good deeds (James 2). We could say that faith is obedient movement.

There's more though. And this is where many of us have missed it. We may need a more developed **working knowledge of faith**.

The centurion said to Jesus,

*"You don't need to come to my home. Just say the word and my servant will be healed. For I also am under authority. And I'm in authority. I say, 'Go' ... and a soldier goes. I say, 'Come' ... and another soldier comes to me. I say to my servant, 'Do this!' ... and it's done!"*

Astonished, Jesus said, *"Assuredly, I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel!"*

If this was the greatest example of faith according to Jesus, it should get our attention, right?

What did the centurion know? What was it that impressed Jesus?

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He grasped the concept of **true authority** and how it flowed through **accurate alignment**.

But he didn't stop there ... he also understood the powerful impact of **targeted declaration**.

### LOVE, PRAY, THEN SAY ...

You see, there's a way things work. As we look to the Scripture, we can see patterns and models.

Peter was awestruck when a fig tree that Jesus cursed withered overnight. Jesus then coached his disciples (and us!) ...

*(22) Have faith in God.*

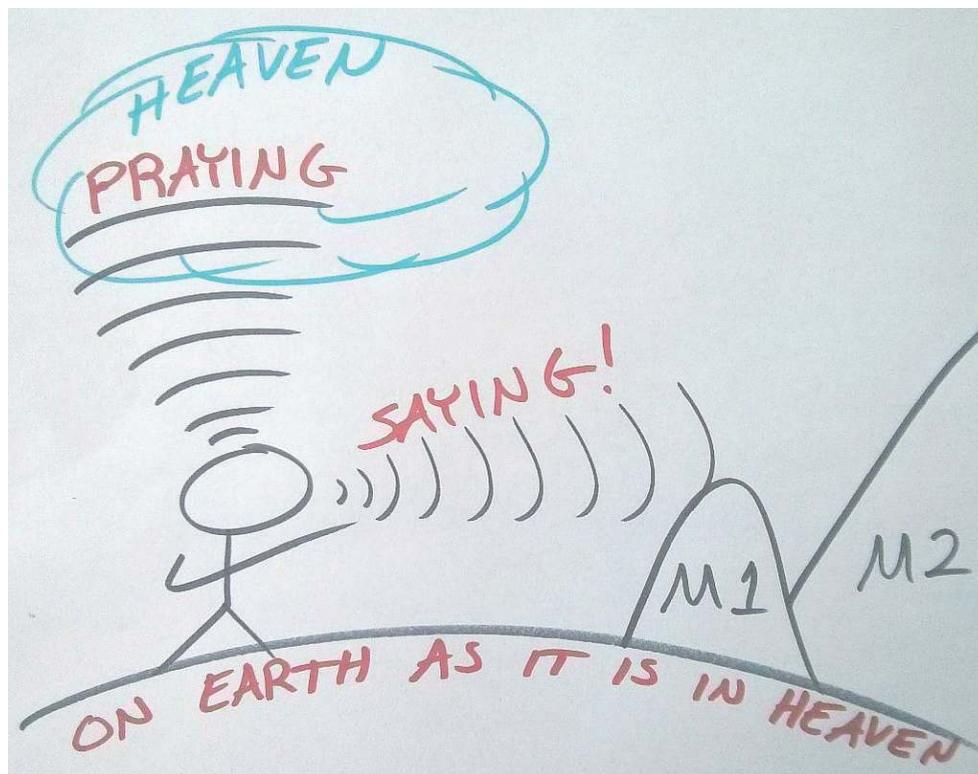
*(23) Truly I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be taken up and cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says is going to happen, it will be granted him.*

*(24) Therefore I say to you, all things for which you pray and ask, believe that you have received them, and they will be granted you.*

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*(25) Whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father who is in heaven will also forgive you your transgressions.*

*(26) But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father who is in heaven forgive your transgressions. (Jesus in Mark 11:22-26)*



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Jesus is our *Ultimate Life Coach*. What is he teaching and modeling?

**Have faith in God** ... the person of God is our faith focal point. It's about who he is and what he can do. And remember, faith is relational. Not just a transaction.

**Speak and believe what you say will happen** ... we will have what we say as we believe. It's reality. Yes, we must believe that what we say will happen. Do you believe your own words?

**As you pray, believe you receive what you're asking** ... and you will have it. Even before you "see" it. You acquire the "title deed" on the inside before it shows up on the outside.

**Forgive and walk in love** ... there's little-to-no prayer power when we entertain unforgiveness. Cultivate relational integrity. As far as you're concerned, be at peace with all people. Release things and let the grace (life empowerment) flow!

So faith is saying that's sourced in praying. We can move mountains by speaking to them in a true way.

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## CHALLENGED

Mountains represent authority in Scripture. See “mountains” which are blocking you as anything that is hindering the glory of Christ from being fully revealed in your life as you quest to know him. And as you passionately pursue your complete destiny.

I've been challenged ... what is my state of belief? How clear and courageous is it? Do I believe what I say will happen?

Or am I not a person of my word? Maybe we can talk about this in another JesusSmart Guide: you are the word; when you speak, for better or worse, you are releasing the essence of who you are.



Personal integrity. Do I believe that what I say will happen?

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## READY TO MOVE MOUNTAINS? A QUICK PERSONAL AUDIT ...

Now, read Mark 11:22-26 again ... but this time, read it backwards. I believe this is the way we need to frame these Kingdom concepts in our understanding from this passage.

Start with verses 25-26 about forgiving others. Reflect.

Then read verse 24 about prayer and receiving. Reflect.

Then read verse 23 about speaking to mountains. Reflect.

And then read verse 22 and understand that our faith is in God and Jesus told us how faith works. This will help us to develop a **working knowledge of faith**.

Prayer rests upon the foundation of love and relational integrity with God and man ... then powerful speaking flows from our prayer lives.

How are we doing with relational integrity? Clenching unforgiveness? There may be issues we need to clean up and bring closure to.

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Do we prioritize prayer? Are we receiving as we pray? True believing = receiving according to Jesus.

What's the state of our faith-language? Are we living by faith-logic instead of natural logic? Do we actually believe we can move mountains?



Royal prayer receives from the Throne and then  
decrees the Word of the King

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## **BONUS: IT'S COMEBACK TIME! SHIFT THE ENVIRONMENT. PRAY. THEN PROCLAIM!**

Is something sick or dying in your world? It's comeback time!

Peter modeled something for us in the book of Acts. He learned it from Jesus. And there's no reason why we can't do the same ...

A relationship. Finances, career, or business. Ministry. A project. A cause.

Peter modeled **3 Kingdom dynamics** to seeing someone (or something) experience new life. These are key.

Tabitha fell sick and died (Acts 9:36-43). Luke writes she was a woman who abounded with "deeds of kindness and charity." Something good and beneficial had been stopped.

How would Peter move forward?

## 1) RECONDITION THE ENVIRONMENT FOR BREAKTHROUGH

*“When he arrived, they brought him into the upper room; and all the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing all the tunics and garments that Dorcas used to make while she was with them. But Peter sent them all out ....” (Acts 9:39-40 NAS)*

Of course grieving is real. Understandable. But Dorcas was taken out early.

Peter knew if they were to see the extraordinary, he had to shift the environment to condition it for **Kingdom possibilities**.

He saw Jesus do the same with a little girl who died:

*“He (Jesus) said, ‘Leave’ ... when the crowd had been sent out, He entered and took her by the hand, and the girl got up.” (Matthew 9:24-25 NAS)*

It’s not a formula. It’s not, “Follow these steps and this will happen.” But this “Kingdom template” is clearly seen in how Jesus and Peter operated.

**Authentic faith is relationally-based**—our vital connection with the living Christ. It’s organic in nature, not technical. The living voice of

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Christ to us in the moment creates faith, even when there has been none!

We too can follow the modeling of Jesus ...

**Condition the environment.** We probably need to stop listening to some things. Stop viewing some things. Stop looking at people. Stop allowing the circumstantial and environmental to affect us.

The Lord may lead us to graciously transform, or if necessary, release some relationships. We should be open to new relationships. We likely need to forsake negative memories and past experiences.

There are many ways we condition our environment ... as well as our internal environment (our inner person).

## 2) PRAY THROUGH TO WIN THE DAY

We can learn something from old school believers—they prayed through. Cool and casual won't win the day.

After conditioning the environment, Peter *"knelt down and prayed (Acts 9:40 NAS)."*

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This is where we go to see the grace and power flow. We can *“draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need”* (Hebrews 4:16 NAS).

**We dial in to the heart and mind of God.** His mind and ability is imparted to us.

*“Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, to Him be the glory ...”* (Ephesians 3:20 NAS)



We can practice the patterns that Jesus used. He is our model.

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### 3) THEN TURN AND SPEAK TO THE SITUATION

*“And turning to the body, he said, ‘Tabitha, arise.’ And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter, she sat up. And he gave her his hand and raised her up; and calling the saints and widows, he presented her alive” (Acts 9:40-41 NAS).*

Jesus defined faith as belief-filled speaking which is sourced in prayer.

*“Have faith in God. Truly I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be taken up and cast into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says is going to happen, it will be granted him” (Matthew 11:22 NAS).*

This is an eye-opener. **Jesus defines the function of faith first as “saying.”**

And yet we also need to know that faith-filled speaking is sourced in the womb of prayer. In the next verse in Mark 11 Jesus said, *“Therefore I say to you, all things for which you pray and ask, believe that you have received them, and they will be granted you” (Mark 11:24 NAS).*

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Explore Matthew 8:5-13 where Jesus identifies the greatest faith He had ever seen. The Roman centurion understood **authority and commanding words** ... *"Just say the word, and my servant will be healed."*

Peter stood up from a place of praying through, turned to face the situation and then spoke. Kingdom possibility was released through prayer-sourced, belief-filled proclamation.

### **IT'S COMEBACK TIME ...**

Is something sick or dead? Why not use the Kingdom template that Jesus (and then Peter) practiced!

**Condition your environment for the extraordinary.**

**Pray through until you receive.**

**Now, turn to the situation in faith and proclaim.**