

## Prayer Authority

This take-along study is to help one to believe one receives when one does faith, as in Mark 11:23-24.

“Believe you receive” in Mark 11:23-24 sounds mysterious, but is actually a summary of all God said about respecting God’s Word. Since this study draws upon other studies, read the basic studies first. It may be renamed “Faith in Jesus’ Name” in the future.

### Know the name of Jesus to make your faith work better

Know that the body of Christ (Christians) is seated with Jesus at God’s right hand (authority side) far above (authority ranking) all demons and their work and far above all things on earth.

Ephesians 1:16 Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers;

17 That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him:

18 The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,

19 And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power,

20 Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places,

21 Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come:

“Far above . . . every name that is named” reminds us of **Philippians 2:9-10** (“9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: 10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;”). As in **Ephesians 1:21**, **Philippians 2:9-10** uses height to denote authority ranking. The body of Christ, with Jesus, is ranked far above everything else on earth.

22 And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church,

Christ is far above everything on earth (spirits and things on earth).

23 Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.

“Church” is the “body” of Christ (end of verse 22 and the beginning of verse 23). The body of Christ is the “fulness” of Christ. It is implied here that since the body of Christ is part of Christ, then the body of Christ, the church, is also far above everything on earth.

Ephesians 2:4 But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us,

5 Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened (*made alive together*) us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)

When a person is born again and baptized, he is also raised up from the dead, just as God raised up Jesus (Christ) from the dead (Colossians 2:12, 3:1). Thus the body of Christ, the church, has been quickened (made alive together) just as God quickened Jesus Christ, the head of the body of Christ, the church.

6 And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:

Here in Ephesians 2:6 (above), the Bible confirms that the body of Christ sits together with Christ in heavenly places (see Ephesians 1:20-21 above, Colossians 2:12, 3:1). From God's point of view, the body of Christ sits where Christ sits: at God's right hand (the authority side, Mark 16:19), far above all things (Ephesians 1:20-22).

7 That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.

In the New Testament, "Christ Jesus" is the big deal. Fortunately, Christians are members of the body of Christ, which is part of "Christ Jesus."

8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

## **Jesus considers the church to be Him** (or part of Him) –

Therefore, the body of Christ is part of Christ Jesus, and Jesus' authority is for the body of Christ to use in order to do the tasks Jesus told the body of Christ to do (John 14:12, 1 John 3:8).

Acts 26:14 And when we were all fallen to the earth, I heard a voice speaking unto me, and saying in the Hebrew tongue, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.

Saul (Paul) was persecuting Christians. And, yet, in Acts 26:14 (above) Jesus said that Saul was persecuting Jesus. Therefore, Jesus considers the Christians, the body of Christ, to be Him.

Jesus was sent to undo the devil's work (1 John 3:8). Jesus sends the body of Christ to do the same work Jesus did (John 14:12, Luke 9:1-2, 9:6, Luke 10:1, 10:6, 10:17-19, Mark 16:15-18, 16:20). Jesus gives his authority (Matthew 28:18-19) to the body of Christ to undo the devil's work. [See the study "Jesus Church Parallels."]

## **God views God's workers doing work as God doing work**

Exodus 3:17 And I have said, I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt unto the land of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, unto a land flowing with milk and honey.

Exodus 3:20 And I will stretch out my hand, and smite Egypt with all my wonders which I will do in the midst thereof: and after that he will let you go.

God sent Moses and Moses' rod to bring the Israelite slaves out of Egypt and into the Promised Land. And yet here in Exodus 3:17 and 3:20 (above), God says that God stretches out God's hand to smite Egypt even as Moses stretches out Moses' hand/rod to smite Egypt. [See the "Bible Miracles Explained" study.] This parallels with Jesus viewing the body of Christ as Jesus himself (Acts 26:14).

Exodus 7:17 Thus saith the LORD, In this thou shalt know that I am the LORD: behold, I will smite with the rod that is in mine hand upon the waters which are in the river, and they shall be turned to blood.

18 And the fish that is in the river shall die, and the river shall stink; and the Egyptians shall lothe to drink of the water of the river.

Exodus 7:17 (above) shows again that God views Moses raising the rod as God raising the rod in God's hand to smite the water. It agrees with Exodus 3:20 (above).

Exodus 7:20 And Moses and Aaron did so, as the LORD commanded; and he lifted up the rod, and smote the waters that were in the river, in the sight of Pharaoh, and in the sight of his servants; and all the waters that were in the river were turned to blood.

21 And the fish that was in the river died; and the river stank, and the Egyptians could not drink of the water of the river; and there was blood throughout all the land of Egypt.

## Jesus has all authority on earth

Matthew 28:18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, **All power (*authority*) is given unto me** in heaven and **in earth**.

19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Jesus is talking to the church, the body of Christ. Jesus first says that all authority on earth is given to Jesus. Then Jesus gives the church (body of Christ) work to do. As both statements are in the same context, Jesus' authority must be relevant to sending the church to do work. In fact, the "go ye therefore" in Matthew 28:19 (above) says that because verse 18 is true, Jesus is sending the church to do work. The implication is that the church does have Jesus' authority (through Jesus' name) so it can do the work Jesus gave it to do (John 14:12, Mark 16:15-20, Luke 10:17-19 (below)).

## Jesus told the church to tread on devils and their work for they are subject to the church through Jesus's name

Luke 10:17 And the seventy returned again with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through thy name.

18 And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven.

19 Behold, **I give unto you power (authority) to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy:** and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

Luke 10:17-19 (above) confirms that the devils and their work are subject to the body of Christ through the name of Jesus. From this context, we see that Jesus' authority (Matthew 28:18) is in Jesus' name. Jesus also says that with this authority (through Jesus' name) the workers can tread on devils (serpents and scorpions) and, by extension, their work. In fact, anyone can use Jesus' name to tread on devils (Luke 9:49-50).

Jesus declared God's will in Luke 10:19 (above): the workers are to use Jesus' name to tread on devils and their work (agrees with 1 John 3:8 and John 14:12). And from the study "Bible Miracles Explained," we know that once we know God's will, we can act in agreement with God's will, and then God implements the God's will that we acted in agreement with.

Furthermore, Luke 10:19 says that it is God's will that nothing will hurt the body of Christ. [See the study "Not Perish."]

## Jesus to Paul: my grace is sufficient for you

2 Corinthians 12:7 And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure.

8 For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me.

9 And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

2 Corinthians 12:7 (above) says that the demons (messengers of Satan) "buffet" (strike with the fist, treat with violence) Paul as Paul spreads the gospel. Paul asked Jesus to remove this problem, but Jesus did not remove the demons. Instead, Jesus said that what Jesus gave Paul was sufficient for Paul. Jesus did not do the work, but rather, Jesus gave Paul (and the body of Christ) Jesus' name (Jesus' authority) and the Spirit of God and power (Acts 10:38, Acts 1:8) to get rid of the demons and their work (Luke 10:17-19, 1 John 3:8, John 14:12). "power of Christ may rest upon me" in verse 9 (above) means the Spirit of God (and power) that is poured out on Paul and the body of Christ (Acts 10:38, Matthew 3:11, Acts 2:38, Acts 1:8, Luke 24:49). Power is moved by man's faith (Mark 5:27-30, 5:34).

Factoring in Luke 10:17-19 and all the verses above, what Jesus gave Paul and what Jesus gave to the body of Christ are more than sufficient because Satan, the demons, and their work are always subject to the body of Christ through the name of Jesus.

And because Paul had Jesus' full authority, Jesus himself could not do more than Paul could to make the demons stop and go away. Because they wield the same authority, Paul could stop the demons and their work the same as Jesus did. This is also true for the body of Christ. In Luke 4:28-30, the enraged villagers could not throw Jesus off the cliff because of Jesus' authority. This shows Luke 10:19 in action.

The "grace" in verse 9 (above) is the same word as "grace" in Ephesians 2:5 "by grace ye are saved." The "saved" in Ephesians 2:5 means saved from the devil's work (see Jesus' miracles). It is the same grace,

Jesus' name, the Spirit of God, and power, that saves the church and everyone else from the devils' bondage (John 10:10).

## **The body of Christ is to destroy the works of the devil**

1 John 3:8 He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

John 14:12 Verily (truly), verily (truly), I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.

John 10:10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

1 John 3:8 and John 14:12 (above) together show that the body of Christ is to do the work that Jesus did: to destroy the devils' work (John 10:10 above). This is God's declared will. From the study "Bible Miracles Explained," we know that once we know God's will, then we can act in agreement with God's will, and then God will implement God's will which we acted in agreement with or did faith on.

Also, we should take the initiative to do God's will. We see this when Moses struck the rock twice to release water abundantly (Numbers 20:7-12). (God released water because Moses acted in agreement with Exodus 4:17, even though Moses/Aaron doubted God and were judged for doubting.) We see this again when Moses was cornered at the Red Sea and God asked Moses why did Moses come to God? (Exodus 14:15) God told Moses to just raise the rod (Exodus 14:16) as God had already said in Exodus 4:17. Moses had authority to raise the rod, anytime, anywhere, to initiate miracles to take the Israelites to the Promised Land. Also, God was fine with Aaron and Hur helping Moses to keep that rod raised (Exodus 17:12-13).

## **All this is to help you to believe you receive when you do Mark 11:23-24**

You can believe you receive when you do faith because:

1. You know God's will regarding what you are praying about. And because you know that what you are doing faith for is in agreement with God's will, you know that God will make it happen. Therefore, you can believe you receive it. Believe you receive what you do faith for is important to receive the miracle (Mark 11:22-24).

2. You believe in the name of Jesus. The name of Jesus is defined in Luke 10:17-19, Philippians 2:9-10, and Matthew 28:18-19: it is Jesus' authority or all authority in earth (Matthew 28:18-19), that Jesus gave to the body of Christ to tread on the devils and their work (Luke 10:17-19, Matthew 28:18-19, Acts 3:6). Jesus' name is also your authority to manifest God's will for you (John 14:12-14, John 16:23-26, Acts 3:6, Matthew 6:9-13). When you know how much Jesus gave to the body of Christ (Matthew 3:11, Acts 2:38, Luke 24:49, Acts 1:8, Acts 10:38), then it is easy to believe you receive when you do faith in agreement with God's will (Mark 11:22-24). [See the studies "Bible Miracles Explained" and "What Jesus Means by Faith."]

3. Another important factor is to make sure that what you pray for is in God's will. God's will is determined by what God said in His Word. Once you know that God wants to give it to you, then it is just a matter of piling on faith until it manifests. (Jesus kept on laying hand on the blind man until the blind man was healed (Mark

8:22-25). Moses, Aaron, and Hur raised that rod all day (Exodus 17:12-13 vs. Exodus 17:11) to agree with Exodus 4:17, 3:8, 3:20. Moses struck the rock (in agreement with Exodus 4:17, 3:8, 3:20) to release water (Exodus 17:6). Likewise, Moses struck the rock twice to release water abundantly (Numbers 20:11). Christians prayed all night (in agreement with Matthew 6:10, 6:13, Psalm 91) to break Peter out of jail (Acts 12:3-12).

4. The second most important factor is to know that the body of Christ has all authority on earth (Jesus' authority in Jesus' name: Luke 10:17-19, Acts 3:6, Matthew 28:18-19) to make God's will manifest on earth (see the Lord's Prayer, Matthew 6:9-13) which includes destroying devils' work and casting out devils. If you know the Bible narrative on this very well (know it in your heart), then you know that the challenge you and your faith face is subject to you through the name of Jesus (Luke 10:17-19), and you will be a winner if you "fight the good fight of faith." [See the study, "Fight the Good Fight of Faith."] When you believe things on earth are subject to you through the name of Jesus (as long as they are in God's will, as determined through God's Word: Philippians 2:9-10, Luke 10:17-19, Matthew 28:18-19, Mark 16:17-18, Acts 3:6, 1 John 3:8, John 14:12), then it is easy to believe you receive when you act in agreement with God's will.

5. Remember to "believe you receive," as stated in Mark 11:23-24. Believe you receive means that you do not doubt what God said about what God has given to you and how you are to receive God's blessing. How much you "believe you receive" (Mark 11:24, 11:23) is a significant component of "according to your faith be it unto you" (Matthew 9:29). Peter transitioned from miracle/no doubt to smaller miracle/doubt/little faith in Matthew 14:28-31. At Jesus' home village, the villagers' doubt of what Jesus told them shut down miracles such that even Jesus marveled at their unbelief (Mark 6:1-6). At the other end of the spectrum, Jesus commended some for their strong faith to receive from God. [See the "Gospel of Kingdom of God" and "What Jesus Means by Faith" studies.]

The way to reduce doubt and strengthen belief/faith is to do Romans 10:17. [See the "Fight the Good Fight of Faith" study.] Learn from God's Word what God has given us and what God said on how to receive from God. Throughout the Bible, God expects man to believe God's Word and to act on God's Word. To doubt God's Word is equivalent to calling God a liar (Numbers 13:32, Numbers 14:22-23, Numbers 20:12). "Believe you receive," in this context, is the same as believe what God said. This is why we do Romans 10:17. [Try reading the "Prayer Authority" study twice. weekly for a year.]

6. It is always important to put God's Word in your heart. For that is how to grow your faith (Romans 10:17, Joshua 1:8, Proverbs 4:20-22) and the mystery of the kingdom of God (Mark 4:11, 4:14, 4:26, Matthew 6:33).

### **Before you do faith, you should review/remind yourself that:**

(1) The target of your faith is in God's will for you (as declared in God's Word) and that God wants to give it to you.

(2) Jesus equipped the church the same as God equipped Jesus (Spirit of God and power (Acts 10:38) and Jesus' authority (all authority on earth) to manifest God's will on earth. [See the studies: "Jesus Church Parallels," "Gospel of the Kingdom of God," and the Lord's Prayer.]

(3) The body of Christ is to do the same work as Jesus did. [John 14:12/1 John 3:8/John 10:10 and the studies: "Jesus Church Parallels," "Gospel of the Kingdom of God," and "The Work We Do".]

(4) Jesus thinks of you as Himself.

(5) The name of Jesus (all authority on earth) is yours to use (Acts 3:6, 3:16) to do God's will. God's power is moved by man's faith action (Acts 3:6, 3:16, Mark 5:27-30, 5:34, Acts 16:18) in agreement with God's will.

(6) The grace (the name of Jesus and the Spirit of God and power) Jesus gave you is sufficient to get the job done (2 Corinthians 12:9).

## First challenge for Christians: know God's will

1 John 5:14 And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask (call for, G154) any thing according to his will, he heareth us:

15 And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask (call for, G154), we know that we have the petitions that we desired (call for, G154) of him.

The first challenge is that we do faith according to God's will. This is so that we can believe God wants to give us the object of our faith. (1 John 5:14 (above) also implies that God does not hear us when what we pray for is not according to God's will.) Many Christians do not know John 14:12. John 14:12 says that the body of Christ is to do Jesus' work, because Jesus "go unto my Father." Jesus is no longer here on earth to do that work. It is up to the body of Christ to carry on the work and to do "greater works." [Jesus' work: 1 John 3:8 and John 10:10]

## The second challenge: more of God's Word in man's heart

John 15:7 If ye abide in me, and my words abide (live in, G3306) in you, ye shall ask (call for) what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

John 15:7 (above) is a hurdle many Christians have trouble clearing. God's Word living in our hearts is our goal in order to see our prayers answered easily. Christians should do more Romans 10:17 and make their faith fight easier. [See the "Fight the Good Fight of Faith" study.]

John 8:31 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue (to remain, abide, live in, G3306) in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;

32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

John 8:31-32 (above) is a repeat of John 15:7 (above). God's Word living strongly in man will set man free from the devil's bondage (John 10:10, Luke 13:16).

Romans 10:17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Whether we have "little faith" or "great faith" depends on how much we hear/read God's Word, as shown in Romans 10:17 above. Putting God's Word in our heart is how to grow our faith and meet the John 15:7 challenge (Mark 4:11, 4:14, 4:26-32, Luke 12:31). [See the "Little Faith Great Faith," "Fight the Good Fight of Faith," "Gospel of Kingdom of God" studies.]

### Third challenge: fight the good fight of faith vigorously and persistently

1 Timothy 6:12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.

Romans 10:17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Romans 10:17 (above) is the first part of the faith fight and probably the most important. It takes time and effort to put God's Word in us. Start now, before the crisis arrives. [See the "Fight the Good Fight of Faith" study.]

Joshua 1:8 This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

Joshua 1:8 (above) is similar to Romans 10:17 (above) and Proverbs 4:20-22 (below).

Proverbs 4:20 My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings.

21 Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart.

22 For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh.

1 Thessalonians 5:17 Pray without ceasing. [See Paul's prayers for the church in the "Paul Prayers" study.]

18 In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

Do not forget to give thanks.

### A Faith fight example

Mark 8:22 And he cometh to Bethsaida; and they bring a blind man unto him, and besought him to touch him.

23 And he took the blind man by the hand, and led him out of the town; and when he had spit on his eyes, and put his hands upon him, he asked him if he saw ought.

24 And he looked up, and said, I see men as trees, walking.



25 After that he put his hands again upon his eyes, and made him look up: and he was restored, and saw every man clearly.

Jesus did faith and then checked the result. Jesus kept on doing faith and checking the result until God's will was done.

Paul prayed Mark 11:23s for the church endlessly (Ephesians 1:16-23, Colossians 1:9-11). Paul must have thought that the repetition of faith made a difference (1 Thessalonians 5:17).

#### **Fourth challenge: believe/faitn in the name of Jesus**

Acts 3:2 And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple;

3 Who seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple asked an alms.

4 And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him with John, said, Look on us.

5 And he gave heed unto them, expecting to receive something of them.

6 Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.

7 And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength.

8 And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God.

Peter in verse 6 above shows that the name of Jesus goes together with Mark 11:23-24, because "rise up and walk" is Peter's Mark 11:23 statement. Also, Peter says that the name of Jesus is his to use. Therefore, the name of Jesus is ours (the body of Christ) to use. We see from this example and from when Moses got cornered at the Red Sea that we can take initiative to use the tools God gives us to do the work given to us.

Acts 3:16 And his name through faith in his name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is by him hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.

In Acts 3:16 (above) Peter said that it was Jesus' name that healed the lame man. Peter also said that it was Peter's faith (and belief) in Jesus' name that healed the lame man. So, Peter believed that the name of Jesus is Jesus' authority and that the lame man's infirmity is subject to Peter, through Peter's faith in the name of Jesus ("rise up and walk," Peter's Mark 11:23 statement).

Mark 16:15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

18 They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

19 So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God.

20 And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.

This is the Great Commission (and Matthew 28:18-20). "Them that believe in my name" in Mark 16:17 means those who believe in the name of Jesus: that the name of Jesus is Jesus' authority (Luke 10:17, 10:19) and that all things on earth are subject to the body of Christ through the name of Jesus (Matthew 28:18-19, Acts 3:6, Luke 10:17-19).

## Other "believe in the name of Jesus" verses

John 1:12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power (*authority, G1849, "exousia"*) to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

John 2:23 Now when he was in Jerusalem at the passover, in the feast day, many believed in his name, when they saw the miracles which he did.

John 3:18 He that believeth on him is not condemned (*to judge, G2919, "krino"*) : but he that believeth not is condemned (*to judge, G2919, "krino"*) already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

1 John 3:23 And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment.

1 John 5:13 These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.

14 And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask (call for, G154) any thing according to his will, he heareth us:

15 And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask (call for, G154), we know that we have the petitions that we desired (call for, G154) of him.

Acts 4:30 By stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus.

Matthew 12:21 And in his name shall the Gentiles trust.

Romans 10:13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

## Simon acted on Jesus' word and got a monster catch

Luke 5:4 Now when he had left speaking, he said unto Simon, Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught.

Since Jesus called himself a prophet, "launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught" in Luke 5:4 is God's will for them.

5 And Simon answering said unto him, Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net.

The key action is "At thy word I will let down the net." Man first acts in agreement with God's will, and then God implements God's will. See the study "Bible Miracles Explained."

6 And when they had this done, they inclosed a great multitude of fishes: and their net brake.

They (man) first acted in agreement with God's will, and then God implemented God's will.

7 And they beckoned unto their partners, which were in the other ship, that they should come and help them. And they came, and filled both the ships, so that they began to sink.

## Another monster catch after acting on Jesus' word

John 21:3 Simon Peter saith unto them, I go a fishing. They say unto him, We also go with thee. They went forth, and entered into a ship immediately; and that night they caught nothing.

4 But when the morning was now come, Jesus stood on the shore: but the disciples knew not that it was Jesus.

5 Then Jesus saith unto them, Children, have ye any meat? They answered him, No.

6 And he said unto them, Cast the net on the right side of the ship, and ye shall find. They cast therefore, and now they were not able to draw it for the multitude of fishes.

The key here is the same as the previous episode: act in agreement with God's Word so that God can do his will to supply our needs. "Cast the net on the right side of the ship" is an artificially created opportunity for them to act in agreement with God's Word so that God can implement God's will for them.

These episodes show God's will to supply our needs (Matthew 6:11, Matthew 6:25-33, Matthew 7:7-11, Philippians 4:19). God supplied their needs abundantly through the work of their hands. We can expect the same if we first act in agreement with God's will.

Early in his ministry, Jesus declared God's will for us in Matthew 6:10-13, 6:25-33, and Matthew 7:7-11. Of particular importance is "seek ye first the kingdom of God" in Matthew 6:33 (below).

Matthew 6:33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

How do we seek the kingdom of God? See the "Gospel of Kingdom of God" study.

## A tip on doing faith

A visual analogy of you doing faith may help. Visualize the goal of your faith act/statement (that is in agreement with God's will/Word) as a target such as a building. Visualize your faith statement (that is in agreement with God's will/Word) as a bullet slug. Visualize your belief in Jesus' name as "all authority in earth" (Matthew 28:18, Luke 10:17-19) as the speed of the slug heading toward the target: the stronger your belief that you can exercise "all authority in earth"/Jesus' name to do God's will, the faster the bullet slug moves and the more damage it does. So, each time you do a faith statement in Jesus' name, visualize a bullet slug moving toward the target, and then visualize a piece of the target fall down. The stronger your faith (more Romans 10:17), the bigger the piece of the target that falls down. Eventually, the target falls (Mark 8:22-25, James 5:15, Mark 11:22-24, 1 Thessalonians 5:17, Ephesians 6:16-17).

The key here is to do more Romans 10:17. In Jesus' home village, the villagers' doubt (disagreement with God's Word/will) of what Jesus told them caused even Jesus' bullet slug (in the context of this analogy) to strike the target building with little velocity such the big/strong building survived (Mark 6:5-6). Jesus helped his neighbors to do Romans 10:17 when "he went round about the villages, teaching" (Mark 6:6). Similarly, God helped Abraham and Sarah to do Romans 10:17, when God changed Abraham's name to mean "father of multitude" (Genesis 17:5) and Sarah's name to mean "noblewoman." (Genesis 17:15-16) They were reminded of God's will for them when others called their names.

## Another tip

Remind yourself of the following ditty before you use Jesus' name to do faith (Acts 3:6, 3:16):

Jesus' name is the name above every name, and, at Jesus' name, every knee shall bow (Philippians 2:9-10). Jesus' name is Jesus' authority (Luke 10:17-19), all authority in heaven and earth (Matthew 28:18), that Jesus gives to me, the body of Christ, to use (Matthew 28:19, Luke 10:17-19, Acts 3:6): to destroy the devil's work, and to carry on Jesus' work (Luke 10:17-19, 1 John 3:8, John 14:12), and to supply me (body of Christ) my needs (Matthew 6:33, Matthew 6:10-13, Philippians 4:19). For all things are subject to me through Jesus' name (Luke 10:17-19, Matthew 28:18-19, Acts 3:6, 3:16) (as long as the faith action agrees with God's will) and according to my faith be it unto me (Matthew 9:29).

Or alternatively: Through Jesus' name, all things are subject to me (the body of Christ) to do God's will (as long as the faith action agrees with God's will).

Or: I am using all authority in heaven and earth (Matthew 28:18-19), that Jesus gives me to use, to do God's will: In Jesus' name, <your Mark 11:23 statement>. (If your faith action agrees with God's will).