



# *Faith in Action*

## IS THE KEY TO THE DOOR



PASTOR KEITH JOEL WALKER



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*Written by*  
Pastor Keith Joel Walker

The theme of faith being demonstrated through action is prevalent throughout both the Old and New Testaments. Below is a list of examples from the Gospels, particularly focusing on the verses you mentioned, as well as notable Old Testament figures who put their faith into action and experienced divine results.

## New Testament Examples of Faith in Action

### 1. Mark 2:1-10 - The Paralytic Man

- Context: A paralyzed man is brought to Jesus by four friends. They remove the roof of the house where Jesus is teaching to lower him down.
- Action: Their determination and faith led them to take drastic measures to reach Jesus, demonstrating that faith is active and persistent.
- Result: Jesus forgives the man's sins and heals him, showing that their faith was instrumental in the miracle.
- Fable/Analogy: Like a team of climbers who risk everything to reach the summit, their unity and determination led to a miraculous encounter.

### 2. Mark 5:25-34 - The Woman with the Issue of Blood

- Context: A woman who had been suffering from a bleeding disorder for twelve years hears about Jesus and believes He can heal her.
- Action: She pushes through the crowd to touch

Jesus' garment, believing that even a touch would heal her.

- Result: Jesus acknowledges her faith and tells her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering."
- Fable/Analogy: Like a river carving its way through rock, her relentless pursuit of healing illustrates that faith can overcome even the most daunting obstacles.

### 3. Mark 10:46-52 - Blind Bartimaeus

- Context: Bartimaeus, a blind beggar, hears that Jesus is passing by and begins to shout for Him.
- Action: Despite being told to be quiet, Bartimaeus shouts even louder, demonstrating his faith and determination to be heard.
- Result: Jesus calls him over, asks what he wants, and restores his sight, commending his faith.
- Fable/Analogy: Like a lighthouse in a storm, his cries for help pierced through the noise, guiding him to the light of healing.

### 4. Matthew 14:28-31 - Peter Walking on Water

- Context: The disciples see Jesus walking on water and are afraid. Peter asks to walk on the water to Jesus.
- Action: Peter steps out of the boat and walks on the water towards Jesus.
- Result: While he begins to sink when he doubts, Jesus catches him, illustrating that faith in action can

lead to miraculous experiences.

- Fable/Analogy: Like a bird taking its first flight, Peter's leap into the unknown exemplifies the courage to act on faith despite fear.

## 5. Luke 17:11-19 - The Ten Lepers

- Context: Ten lepers call out to Jesus for mercy, and He tells them to show themselves to the priests.

- Action: They begin to go to the priests as instructed, demonstrating their faith in His word.

- Result: As they go, they are healed, showing that their action based on faith led to their healing.

- Fable/Analogy: Like seeds planted in fertile soil, their faith took root as they moved forward, resulting in abundant healing.

## Old Testament Examples of Faith in Action

### 1. Abraham - Genesis 12:1-4

- Context: God calls Abraham to leave his homeland and go to a land He will show him.

- Action: Abraham obeys and leaves without knowing where he is going.

- Result: He becomes the father of many nations and is blessed by God.

- Fable/Analogy: Like a sailor setting out to sea without a map, Abraham's faith was his compass, guiding him to a promised future.

## 2. Moses - Exodus 14:13-22

- Context: The Israelites are trapped between the Red Sea and the pursuing Egyptian army.
- Action: Moses raises his staff and stretches out his hand over the sea.
- Result: The sea parts, allowing the Israelites to cross on dry ground.
- Fable/Analogy: Like a shepherd leading his flock through a storm, Moses' faith created a pathway where none seemed possible.

## 3. Joshua - Joshua 6:1-20

- Context: God commands Joshua to march around the walls of Jericho.
- Action: Joshua and the Israelites obey God's command, marching around the city for seven days.
- Result: On the seventh day, the walls of Jericho fall, allowing them to conquer the city.
- Fable/Analogy: Like a drumbeat heralding a new dawn, their faithful footsteps resonated with divine purpose, leading to victory.

## 4. Rahab - Joshua 2:1-21; 6:22-25

- Context: Rahab hides the Israelite spies and helps them escape.
- Action: She puts her faith in the God of Israel and protects the spies.
- Result: She and her family are spared during the conquest of Jericho and become part of the lineage of

Jesus.

- Fable/Analogy: Like a rose blooming in a desert, Rahab's faith flourished amidst adversity, leading to her salvation.

## 5. David - 1 Samuel 17:45-50

- Context: David faces Goliath, the Philistine giant.
- Action: David approaches Goliath with only a sling and stones, declaring his faith in God.
- Result: He defeats Goliath, demonstrating that faith in action can overcome great odds.
- Fable/Analogy: Like a small stone striking a mighty giant, David's faith became the catalyst for triumph against fearsome challenges.

## 6. Elijah - 1 Kings 18:36-39

- Context: Elijah challenges the prophets of Baal on Mount Carmel.
- Action: He calls on God to send fire from heaven to consume his sacrifice.
- Result: God answers, demonstrating His power and leading the people to turn back to Him.
- Fable/Analogy: Like a spark igniting a dry forest, Elijah's faith kindled a revival among the people.

## 7. Daniel - Daniel 6:10-23

- Context: Daniel continues to pray to God despite a decree against it.
- Action: He openly prays to God, trusting in His

protection.

- Result: God protects Daniel in the lions' den, and he is unharmed.
- Fable/Analogy: Like a lighthouse standing firm against crashing waves, Daniel's faith shone brightly, guiding him through peril.

#### 8. The Widow of Zarephath - 1 Kings 17:8-16

- Context: Elijah visits a widow during a famine and asks for food.
- Action: The widow, despite having very little, obeys and makes a meal for Elijah first.
- Result: Her flour and oil do not run out, demonstrating God's provision.
- Fable/Analogy: Like a small flame that refuses to be extinguished, her faith sustained her through the darkest days.

#### 9. Job - Job 1:20-22

- Context: Job loses his wealth and children in a series of calamities.
- Action: He worships God and does not curse Him.
- Result: His faithfulness leads to restoration and blessings later in life.
- Fable/Analogy: Like a tree bending in the storm, Job's faith remained unbroken, allowing him to flourish anew.

#### 10. Esther - Esther 4:15-16



- Context: Esther risks her life to approach the king on behalf of her people.
- Action: She declares a fast and prepares to go before the king.
- Result: Her bravery leads to the salvation of the Jewish people.
- Fable/Analogy: Like a brave knight facing a dragon, Esther's courage and faith opened the door to deliverance.

### Poetic Metaphorical Meanings

- Faith as a Seed: Faith is like a seed planted in the soil of our hearts; with action, it grows into a mighty tree bearing fruit.
- Action as the Wind: Action is the wind that carries the sails of faith; without it, the ship remains anchored in the harbor of doubt.
- Faith and Action as Dance Partners: Faith and action are dance partners, twirling together in the ballroom of life, creating a beautiful symphony of purpose and destiny.
- The Key and the Door: Faith is the door, and action is the key; together, they unlock the treasures of heaven and the blessings that God has in store for those who believe.