

THREE REASONS WE CAN PUR FAITH INTO ACTION

Level Up. Episode 2. Published: June 29, 2023

INTRODUCTION

Last time, I talked about faith consistently producing action. Action looks like:

- We want to follow the teachings of Jesus
- We change our thinking and attitudes to align them with what we know about the Gospel.
- We attempt something challenging because we believe in God's promises.

In today's episode, I'll give you three biblical reasons why your faith will produce action.

REASON ONE: IN CHRIST, WE RECEIVE A NEW BIRTH

Jesus told a famous religious teacher that, despite his status as a leader in Israel, he was not qualified to enter the Kingdom of God (John 3:1-15). Jesus told him, you must be born again by creative act of God's Spirit.

When we turn to Jesus by faith, the Spirit of God gives us new birth. As a result, we relate to God in a new way - as his child. We share in his DNA, so to speak, and that gives us a new ability to love and honor our Heavenly Father.

INSIGHT TWO: IN CHRIST, WE RECEIVE A NEW HEART

The prophet Ezekiel promised that spiritually bankrupt Israel would one day experience a spiritual awakening (Ezekiel 36:22-27). He said that the LORD would change their hearts of stone into hearts that beat with love for him. God's Spirit would create the change, resulting in obedience to God from the heart.

If you're in Christ by faith, then you have this new heart. It's beating with love for God. You want to know him, honor him, and obey him.

INSIGHT THREE: IN CHRIST, WE RECEIVE A NEW IDENTITY

The apostle Paul taught about the old man and the new man. When we turned to Jesus in faith, the old man was crucified with Christ and died to the ruling authority of sin (Romans 6:1-11). At the same instant, the new man was raised with Christ and is alive to the ruling power of God. The new man is our new identity, and he has new desires, new loves, new character, and a new habits.

The Holy Spirit fuels the new man, empowering us from the inside for a new quality of life. Our new identity wants to develop a God-centered and holy lifestyle (Romans 6:12-17; Ephesians 4:17-24).

CONCLUSION

The Lord has given us everything we need to act on our faith. The Holy Spirit is powering us up. We've got new momentum, Holy Spirit energy, and a drive to change and grow in faith.

In the next episode, we'll talk about turning fear into faith. See you next time.