

Summary of Message:

## The Spirit of Faith, Part Two: The Good Fight of Faith

New Covenant Church | Pastor Bryan Hudson, DMin

### 1. Foundation of the Message

- **Key Texts:**
  - *2 Corinthians 4:13 – And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, “I believed and therefore I spoke,” we also believe and therefore speak*
  - *1 Timothy 6:11–12, But you, O man of God, flee these things and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness. 12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses”*
- **Review from Part One:** Faith is more than a tool for crises—it is a **lifestyle**. God has placed His treasure in “earthen vessels,” showing both His confidence in us and our responsibility to live faithfully.

### 2. What is the Spirit of Faith?

- A **disposition or attitude** aligned with the Word of God.
- The **human spirit infused by the Holy Spirit** producing bold, enduring faith.
- Not only belief, but a lifestyle that reflects faith in thought, conduct, and endurance.

### 3. Faith Defined

- **Faith in God is an active, results-producing belief, that involves applying God's Word, taking action based on His promises.**
- **Hebrews 11:1**, *“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”*
- **Weymouth’s translation:** *“Now faith is a well grounded assurance of that for which we hope, and a conviction of the reality of things which we do not see.* Analogy: **Faith as a key fob**—even when the car is not seen, possession of the fob guarantees its reality.
- **The Amplified Bible**, *“Now faith is the assurance (the confirmation, the title deed) of the things we hope for, being the proof of things we do not see and the conviction of their reality - faith perceiving as real fact what is not revealed to the senses.”*

### 4. The Good Fight of Faith

- **A good fight:** one where the outcome is already assured because God fights for us.
- **A bad fight:** when unprepared, careless, or inconsistent (e.g., cramming for a test, showing talent without discipline).
- Consistency—not just talent—earns trust. Faith is inseparable from **faithfulness**.

### 5. Lifestyle of Faith

- Faith must be developed like a muscle—strengthened through use, testing, and endurance.
- A lifestyle of faith is evidenced through:
  - Consistent good works.
  - Excellence in daily living.
  - Spiritual disciplines (prayer, Bible reading, fasting, agreement in community).

- Without faith as a lifestyle, believers risk **“fainting”**—losing heart due to lack of spiritual nutrition.

## 6. How to Fight the Good Fight

- **Look to Jesus** – the Author and Finisher of faith (*Hebrews 12:1–2*).
- **Lay aside weights and sins** – not only obvious sins but unnecessary burdens.
- **Run with endurance** – not just soaring or sprinting, but faithfully walking without fainting.
- **Exercise patience** – faith and patience work together; they are “power twins.”
- **Avoid weariness** – consider the perseverance of Jesus, family, and others who endured.

## 7. Dangers of Fainting

- Physical fainting comes from lack of oxygen/nutrition.
- Spiritual fainting comes from **lack of connection to Christ, lack of Word intake, and lack of consistency**.
- Remedy: Re-focus on Jesus, nourish faith through obedience, and draw strength from faithful examples.

## 8. Marks of a Good Fight

- *2 Corinthians 4:8–9* – We may be hard pressed, perplexed, persecuted, and struck down, **but never crushed, in despair, forsaken, or destroyed**.
- *1 John 4:4* – Greater is He that is in us than he that is in the world.
- The difference lies between **external pressures** and **internal strength** through Christ.

## 9. Affirmation of Faith (Confession) DOWNLOAD

The sermon concluded with a powerful declaration:

- *I have the spirit of faith and a lifestyle that supports it.*
- *I fight the good fight of faith and lay hold on eternal life.*
- *My faith grows daily through God’s grace in both good and bad times.*
- *I endure with patience, will not faint, and triumph in Christ.*

## 10. Core Takeaways

- Faith is not situational but **a lifestyle of faithfulness**.
- A “good fight” is already won because Christ secures the victory.
- Preparation, discipline, and patience make faith durable.
- Believers must avoid fainting by staying spiritually nourished and focused on Jesus.
- The spirit of faith ensures we triumph—even under pressure—because God’s treasure lives within us.