

Series: Living in Faith – part 2
The Six Phases of Faith

How Does God Build My Faith?

PHASE 1: It Starts With A Dream

Examples:

Noah (Gen 6-9) Joseph (Gen. 37-45) Abraham (Gen. 12-22)
Moses (Ex. 2-15) Jesus (John 14-20) David (1 Sam. 16-32)

"...God is able to do far more than we would ever dare to ask or even dream of -- infinitely beyond our highest prayers, desires, thoughts, or hopes." Eph. 3:20 (LB)

PHASE 2: You Decide To Do Something About Your Dream

"You must believe and not doubt...a double-minded man is unstable in all he does." James 1:6+8 (GN)

- To invest: Time Money Reputation Energy

- To let go of: Security

PHASE 3: There May Be A Delay

(God says) "But these things I plan won't happen right away. Slowly, steadily, surely, the time approaches when the vision will be fulfilled." Hab 2:3a (LB)

PHASE 4: There May Be Difficulties

"At the present you may be temporarily harassed by all kinds of trials. This is no accident - it happens to prove your faith, which is infinitely more valuable than gold." 1 Peter 1:6-7 (Ph)

PHASE 5: There May Be Dead Ends

"At that time we were completely overwhelmed, the burden was more than we could bear, in fact we told ourselves that this was the end. Yet we now believe that we had this sense of impending disaster so that we might learn to trust, not in ourselves, but in God who can raise the dead!" 2 Cor. 1:8-9 (Ph)

PHASE 6: There Will Ultimately Be Deliverance

"He has delivered ... and he will deliver us again!" 2 Cor. 1:10

"I am expecting the Lord to rescue me again, so that once again I will see his goodness to me..." Ps 27:13 (GN)

P1 - What is the dream God has given me? If I don't have a dream, start praying, "God give me Your dream."

P2 – What action have I taken to your fulfill my dream? If I haven't taken the action step, ask God what He wants me to do?

P3 – What has caused my dream to be delayed? You're in God's waiting room.

P4 – What difficulties have I faced waiting for the dream to be fulfilled? You are being tested.

P5 – Have I come to a dead end? I'm in God's cul-de-sac.

P6 – Do I expect and trust God to deliver me? He will.