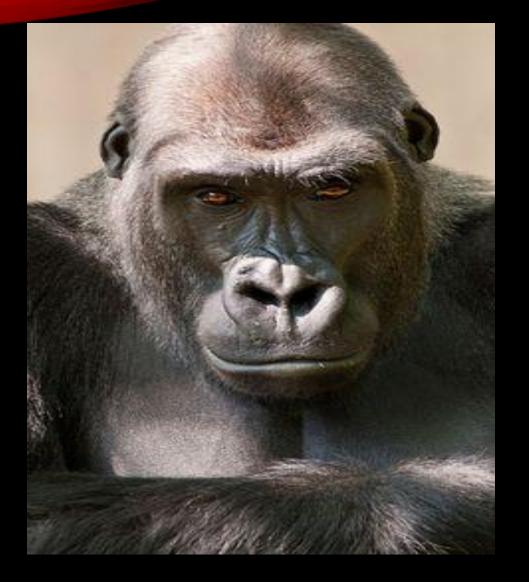
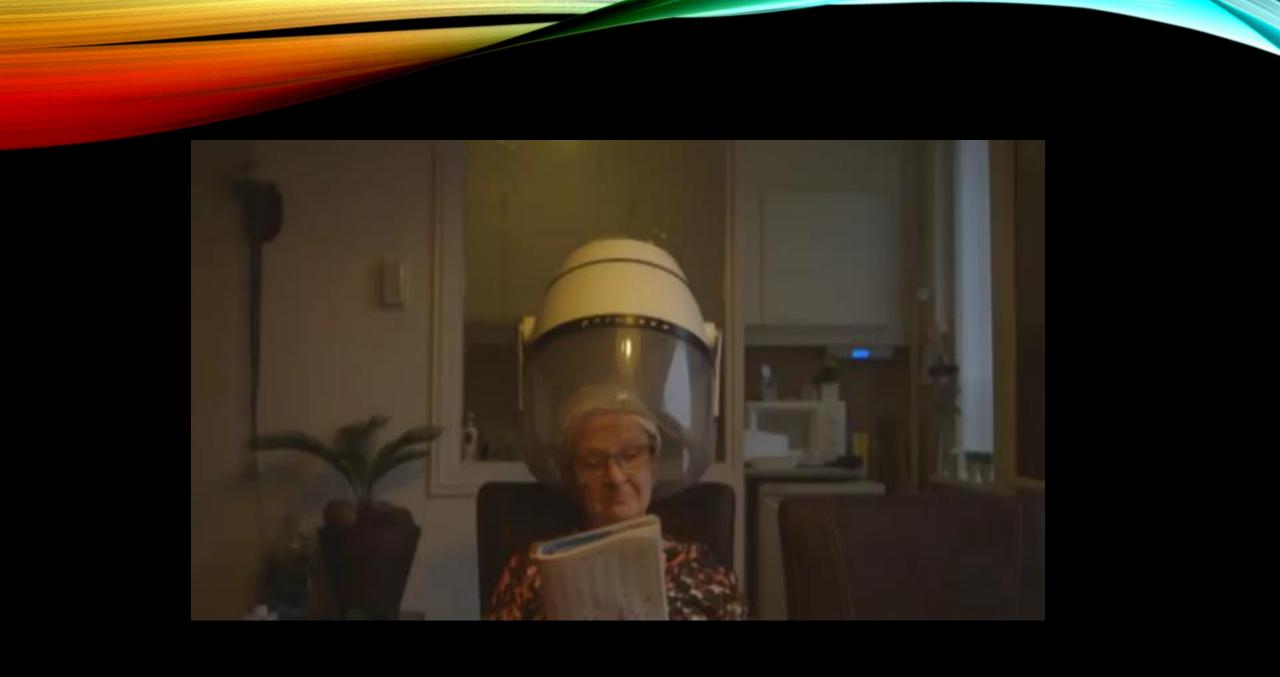
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### "Joy is the serious business of heaven." -C.S. Lewis



#### More faith?

#### "Lord, increase our faith"

"If you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, "Move from here to there," and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you." (Mt 17:20)

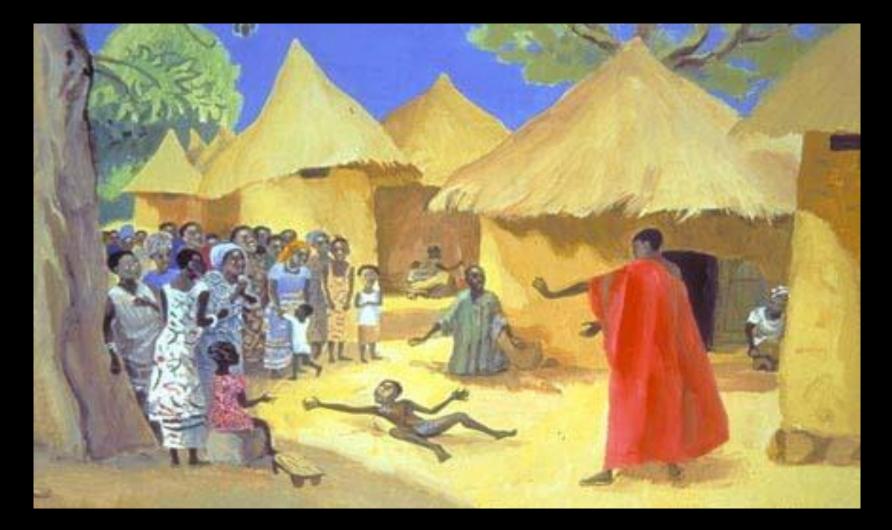


#### Jesus - different level of faith?

Philippians 2 V 7 (The MSG) .....he (Jesus) set aside the privileges of deity and took on the status of a slave... Having become human, he stayed human. It was an incredibly humbling process. He didn't claim special privileges.

> John 14:12 <u>I assure you that whoever believes in me will do</u> <u>the works that I do. They will do even greater</u> <u>works than these because I am going to the</u> <u>Father.</u>

#### What was the disciples' problem?



#### Mark 9:17 – 29

- A man approaches Jesus about his son
- The boy is possessed by an evil "deaf and dumb spirit" since childhood
- Causes foaming of mouth, writhing on ground, rigid, gnashing teeth, throwing him into fire/water
- Your disciples already tried but couldn't cast the spirit out
- Jesus rebukes the onlookers "unbelieving generation", asks to bring him the boy
- The spirit in the boy sees Jesus and throws the boy into convulsions
- The father begs Jesus "Help us if you can"
- Jesus responds "If you can? Anything is possible to him who believes"
- Father "I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief"
- Jesus rebukes the spirit, commands it to come out and never return
- Evil spirit leaves, boy looks dead, Jesus takes his hand and lifts him up, whole and free
- Disciples in private : Why couldn't we cast it out? ......

#### The real problem? ...apistia!

Matthew 17:20 : "Why couldn't we cast it out?

"Because of your APISTIA"

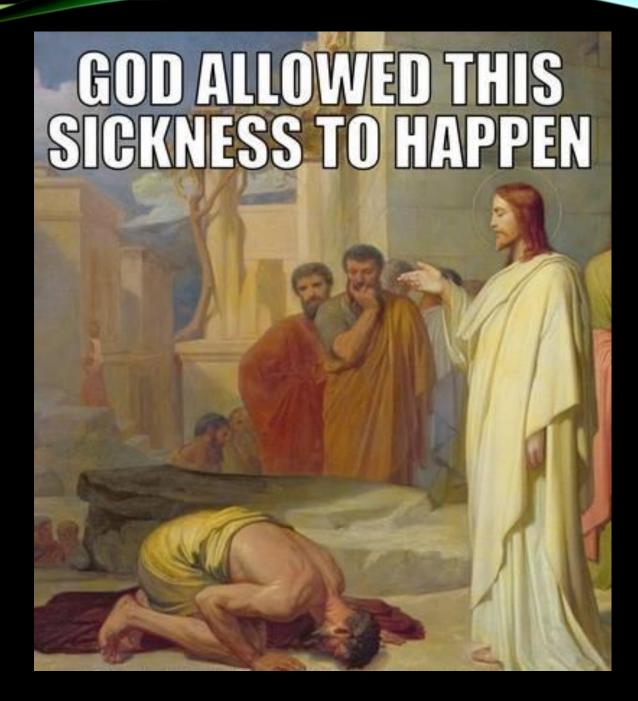
Matthew 21:21

Jesus answered them, "I tell you the truth, if you have faith and do not doubt, not only will you do what was done to the fig tree, but even if you say to this mountain, 'Be lifted up and thrown into the sea,' it will happen.

#### Can God help me with my unbelief?



#### Bad Theology



#### Ignorance



#### Our natural senses



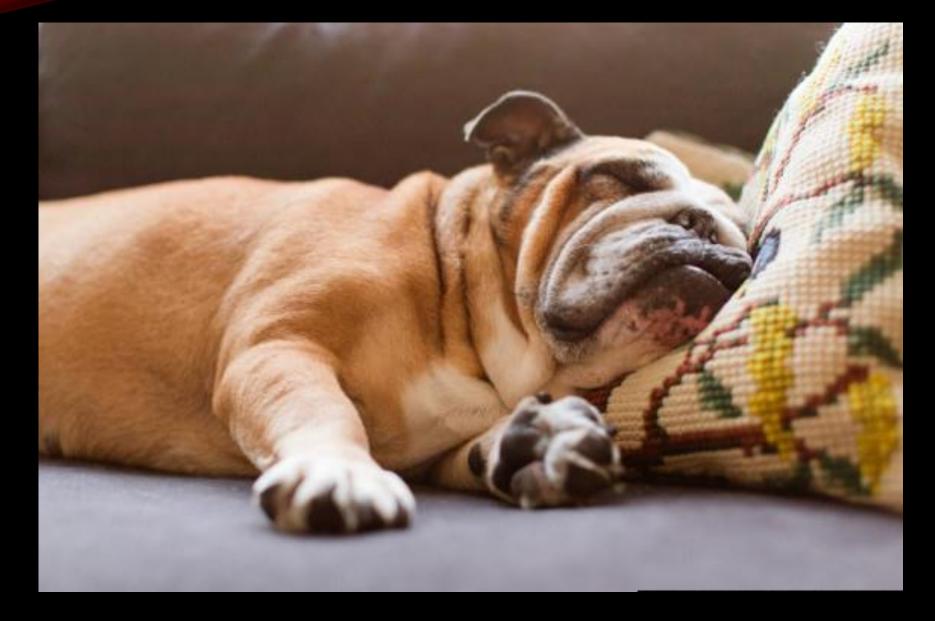
#### Lies of the enemy



### Bad Diet



### Lack of exercise





#### God doesn't give faulty gifts!

Our faith is perfect – IT'S HIS FAITH !!!

Justified by the faith of Jesus Christ Gal 2:16, 20

Lived by the faith of Jesus Christ Eph 2:8

Ministered by the faith that came through Christ Acts 3:16

If it ain't broke, stop trying to fix it!!

#### Faith is rest

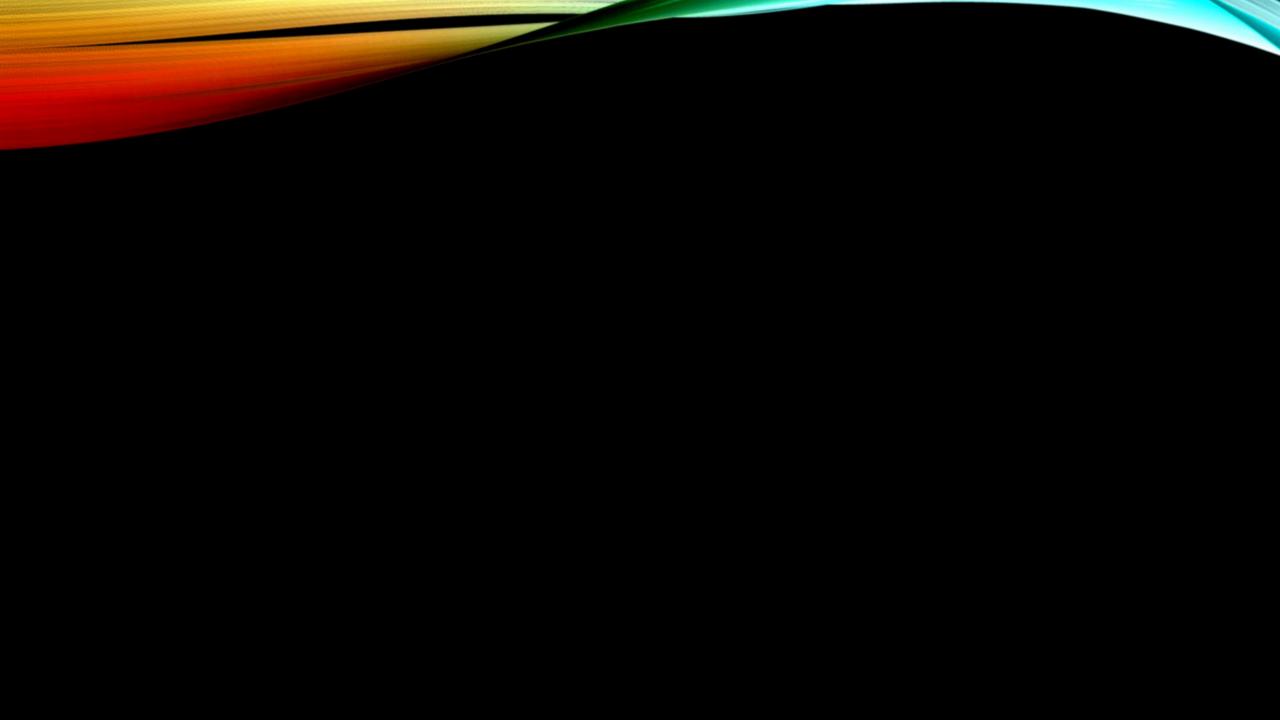




#### Faith is not work

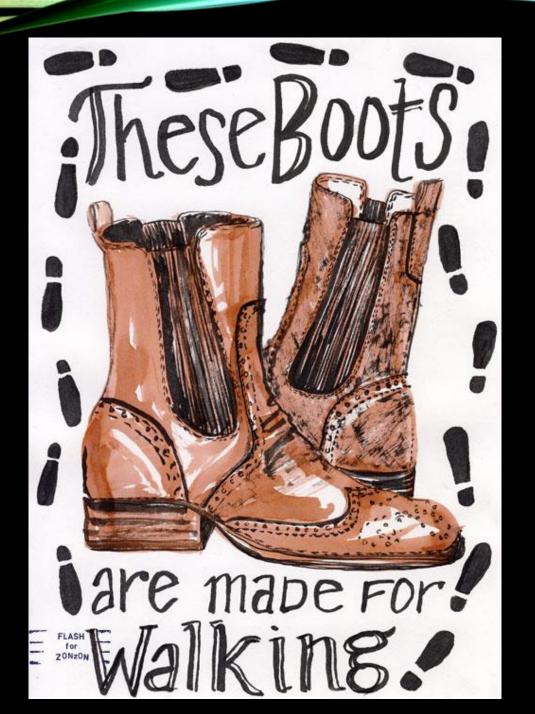


....'it gives your Father great pleasure to give you the Kingdom'' Luke 12:32



# COURAGE

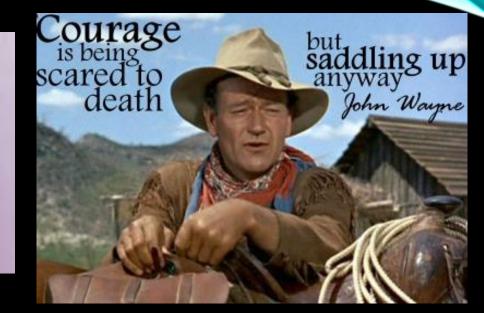
## Is.....Faith with boots on !!



I LEARNED THAT COURAGE WAS NOT THE ABSENCE OF FEAR. But the triumph over it. The brave man is not he who does not feel Afraid. But he who conquers that fear.

NELSON MANDELA

COURAGE IS NOT THE ABSENCE OF FEAR, BUT THE ABILITY TO CONTINUE IN SPITE OF FEAR



#### COURAGE

is not the absence of fear, but rather the judgment that something else is **more important than fear.** 

Ambrose Redmoon



Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak; courage is also what it takes to sit down and listen. *Winston Churchill* 





Courage is contagious. When a brave man takes a stand, the spines of others are often stiffened.

(Billy Graham)

All of us have moments in our lives that test our courage. Taking children into a house with a white carpet is one of them.

Erma Bombeck

It takes courage to say no and possibly be misunderstood

It takes courage to let my feelings be known

It takes courage to believe my opinion matters

It takes courage to walk into a room and believe I will be liked

It takes courage to let myself be loved and appreciated by others

It takes courage to ring my neighbours' doorbell and ask how they are

It takes courage to offer to pray with someone – right now!

It takes courage to believe that my being there is really important

It takes courage to walk away as well as to walk on