

Living The Impossible

One day Jesus and his friends were out with a crowd, in the woods, on a picnic. Jesus asked his disciples to do something that was clearly impossible. There were 5000 men along with their families and they were hungry. There were only 5 loaves and 2 small fish -- obviously not enough to feed them all. It must have seemed absurd to the disciples that Jesus should ask them to distribute this bit of food to the whole crowd. But, because Jesus had given the command, the disciples obeyed and witnessed an incredible miracle.

We often find ourselves in situations that seem impossible as we begin the road back to recovery, or seek to maintain the life God has given us. We feel like we don't have enough money, time, or training. The kids are too much or a welfare worker won't co-operate. Things don't happen as quickly as we'd like or in the way we'd like. Things look impossible. Often, in such circumstances, we give up and try to find a way out.

We need not avoid the impossibilities. We need rather to stay in the middle of them and see what God does when we reach out to Him for solutions.

The key difference between what appears to be impossible to us and what is actually possible is what God has to say. God's commands and God's direction, acted on in faith, can complete incredible things. If we only attempt those things that seem possible then we will never really see God work.

Let's take inventory of our life and the decisions we need to make. What has God already said that we need to act on? Who do I need to talk to for sound advice on what God's plan might be in my situation? Have I actually spoken to God to surrender my will to His and to allow Him to do what seems difficult or impossible? Am I willing to give God time to work through a variety of

circumstances to confirm His will to me? What action have I taken to work out God's will in impossible looking circumstances? Is my attitude one of trust-filled action or fear-filled inaction?

If we proceed with what God tells us to do, no matter how incredible it might seem, we will experience the joy of seeing God perform a miracle, and so will others around us.

Jesus replied, "What is impossible with men is possible with God." (Luke 18)

For every promise from God shall surely come true. (Luke 1)

I can do everything God asks me to do with the help of Christ who gives me the strength and power. (Philippians 4)

Questions For Reflection and Discussion

1. What situations inside me are difficult to face?
2. What situations in my relationships, my environment seem more than I can manage?
3. What has God already said in the Bible that would apply to my situation?
4. What action can I do to "live by faith" and put God's word into action in this particular situation?
5. Who might I talk with who might know what god might be saying about my situation?
6. Have I prayed and asked God for guidance and confessed that I would do whatever God told me to do?
7. Are there areas in my life where God has already spoken to me that I haven't acted on? (Note: Sometimes we are blocked in receiving guidance in one areas because we have not yet obeyed in another.)