Faith Versus Fear

JOYCE MEYER

What is your biggest fear? What is that fear preventing you from doing? Does that fear steal your confidence? Does it make you feel insecure? Fear can make you think and feel a lot of things. In fact, fear always makes things seem worse than they really are.

When my husband, Dave, and I were first married and I was pregnant with our oldest daughter, we lived in a house that had some mice. Although we would occasionally see mice around the house, it wasn't a problem because Dave was always around to deal with them. But one day, when Dave was away at work, I went into the bathroom and saw a mouse in the bathtub.

Well, I just freaked out! I grabbed the first thing I could find - the plunger - and managed to trap the mouse under it in the tub. I was petrified. I ran out of the bathroom and closed the door. Then I got some rope, put the rope around the bathroom door and stretched it over and put it around the bedroom door. Then I stretched it around another door for good measure.

After that, I ran to the kitchen and climbed up on top of the table. I had so much fear, I actually thought that little mouse was going to get out of the bathroom. I was so scared, I had to call Dave to come home and take care of that mouse for me. Believe me, I know that fear can make you do some pretty ridiculous things.

It's been said that F-E-A-R stands for False Evidence Appearing Real. You have to remember that fear comes

from the devil, but faith comes from God. It's almost like every good thing that God tries to give us, the enemy tries to ruin it with some kind of poison. Put another way, every poison that Satan tries to bring into our lives, God has the antidote, and the antidote for the poison of fear is faith.

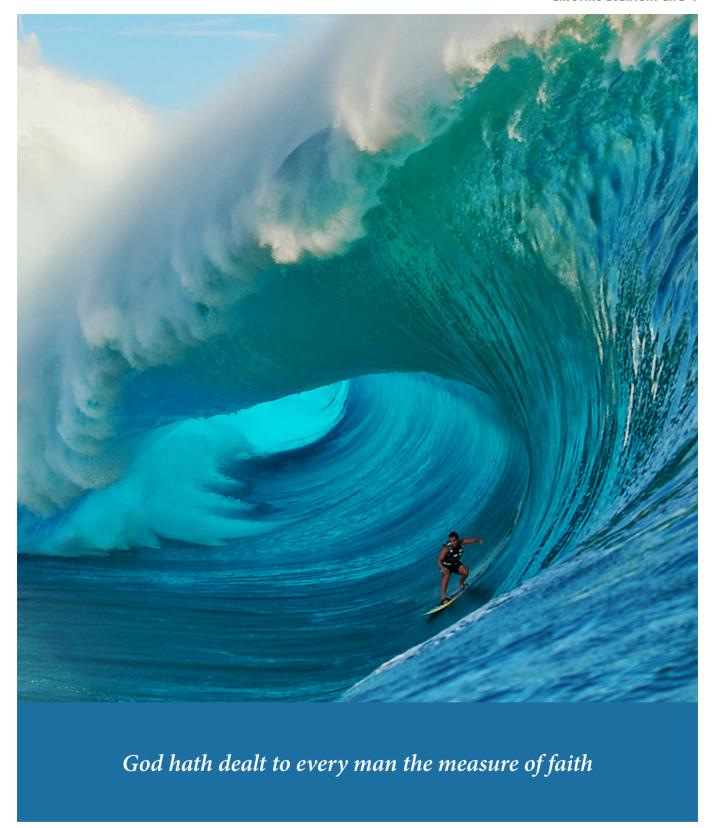
We also need to remember that everything God has is better and more powerful than anything the devil has. First John 4:4 says, *He Who lives in you (God) is greater (mightier) than he who is in the world. Faith is greater than fear!*

You may think you have more fear than you can handle. You may think you don't have any faith at all. But that's just not true. Romans 12:3 says, For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith (King James Version).

Notice that the verse says "every man" has the measure of faith. Not some men...every man, woman, child, young and old. And "the measure of faith" means that everyone, including you, has enough faith to do whatever God has called you to do, no matter what your life holds.

God has already given you the faith to walk in victory over everything you'll face in life - whatever you are facing right now, whatever's coming up, and even those things you don't yet know about.

But that faith does you no good if you don't know how to release it. So how do you release it? You release it through your faith-filled thoughts and words, through your actions, and of course, through prayer. You can't just sit around



thinking fearful thoughts and walk in faith at the same time. What you think about is very important. What you allow yourself to meditate on is very important.

You see, your enemy, the devil, will always try to steal your faith by getting you to believe your fearful thoughts. But you can overcome the enemy by thinking about and declaring the Word of God, which says if God be for me, who can be against me? And if God is on my side, whom

shall I fear? We also need to say many times throughout the day, "God, I trust You."

When you rise up in faith, believing that God will do the things He's promised, you can overcome the fear that tries to stop you. Remember, for every poison the devil tries to bring into your life, God has the antidote, and the antidote for fear is your faith in God.