

Introduction:

1. Thesis:

God specializes in using ordinary people to do extraordinary things!

2. Restatement:

Our “limitations” are not prohibitors to God using our lives, but the very platform on which He chooses to display His grace.

3. Condition:

But something has to happen to ordinary people if God is going to use them to do extraordinary things. In fact, God’s primary agenda for each of our lives centers around this one simple, but profound thing happening in each of our lives.

This one thing is not dependent on...

- ✓ Our intelligence
- ✓ Our education
- ✓ Our giftedness
- ✓ Our background
- ✓ Our wealth
- ✓ Our personality

- This **one thing** is available to every believer of every age without partiality.
- This **one thing** is what separates religious people from those who revolutionize the world.
- This **one thing** can transform the most mundane and ordinary of our world into those who shape and make history.
- This **one thing** is what God commends and values most in His people.
- This **one thing** is what brings pleasure to the heart of God 100% of the time.
- This **one thing** is always rewarded by God.
- This **one thing** is the basis upon which God evaluates your life at any given moment, in any given circumstance, in any given situation.
- This **one thing** is what God is “seeking and developing” to grow in your life above all else.

What is this one thing?

The Answer: _____!

Hebrews 10:32-39 (NIV)

³² Remember those earlier days after you had received the light, when you endured in a great conflict full of suffering. ³³ Sometimes you were publicly exposed to insult and persecution; at other times you stood side by side with those who were so treated.

³⁴ You suffered along with those in prison and joyfully accepted the confiscation of your property, because you knew that you yourselves had better and lasting possessions.

³⁵ So do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded. ³⁶ You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised. ³⁷ For, "In just a little while, he who is coming will come and will not delay."

³⁸ And, "But my righteous one will live by **faith**. And I take no pleasure in the one who shrinks back." ³⁹ But we do not belong to those who shrink back and are destroyed, but to those who have **faith** and are saved.

Hebrews 11:1-8 (NIV)

¹ Now **faith** is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. ² This is what the ancients were commended for.

³ By **faith** we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

⁴ By **faith** Abel brought God a better offering than Cain did. By **faith** he was commended as righteous, when God spoke well of his offerings. And by **faith** Abel still speaks, even though he is dead.

⁵ By **faith** Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death: "He could not be found, because God had taken him away." [d] For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God.

⁶ And without **faith** it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

⁷ By **faith** Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family. By his **faith** he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness that is in keeping with **faith**.

⁸ By **faith** Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going.

Seven tools to grow your faith:

1. _____ - Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God.

2. _____ - Give our first and best to God.

3. _____ - More is caught than taught.

4. _____ - The power of sanctified dreaming.

5. _____ - Track God's workings in your life.

6. _____ - Ask God for a clear call in your life.

7. _____ - Where there is no risk there is no faith.

Application:

- Persevere! Endure! Don't give up!
- Step out! Take a risk!
- Refuse to tolerate the status quo!
- Step in to His promises, rooted in His character!

Why?

- Because we are all just ordinary people whom God wants to use to do extraordinary things in our sphere of influence.
- You are the hope of the world! You are God's Church! There is NO limit to what God can and will do if you only... believe!

What's your next step of faith?

1. Where did God speak to you? What dreams are on your heart?
2. Which of the eight tools do you need to get in your spiritual toolbox?
3. Who will go on this journey with you?