

Now three days later, he received a letter from an old friend - a physician. Dr. Robert McCall. He had not written to this preacher since college days. But there was the letter. He said, my wife and I were talking about you last evening and God placed it on our hearts to have a part in your ministry. Enclosed is \$100 and we will be sending \$100 each month, for the rest of this year. Now there were 6 months left in the year. You know what the amount totaled --- \$700.00.

Now he had taken action - and God had provided his needs. Now this is a step of faith. It takes a full heart of faith to do this. The Bible says, though I have faith so that I could remove mountains and have not love - I am nothing. I Cor. 13:2. And that faith without works is dead. If your faith is too small because of unbelief, you will never get beyond the wilderness.

How many times God wants you to do something but because of your faith, he couldn't do it through you. Matt. 13:58 he says he did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief. He is also mighty today. And could do mighty things if you had some faith.

Let me share with you a true illustration on just what we are talking about. There was an evangelistic team the Richard Hogge, evangelistic team. They were to hold a meeting in San Diego, California. It was the first religious event that they had held in that arena. And they had high anticipation. They felt that this crusade would be Heaven sent. The chairman of the crusade was a young pastor, named Reeves. Two months prior to the crusade, one of the evangelistic members flew to the San Diego area, to prepare for the rally. The young pastor who was head of the committee, called and said he could not meet this man because his wife had been taken to the hospital for an emergency operation. She had cancer - one of the fastest growing types of tumors. Nothing could be done. The doctor gave her two months to live. There was talk about taking a few months leave so that he could take his wife back to his native home to live the last months of her life. Of course, there was immediate reaction. And the evangelist spoke

to the young man by telephone - saying God has given us a heavy burden about this crusade. We have been moved to special prayer - that God might do mighty things. Is this not one thing God has been preparing us for to believe him for a miracle of healing. The pastor talked at length about it - his wife had a marvelous experience. They decided against returning to their home - and remain in San Diego and continue responsibilities in the church and the crusade - and trust God to heal her. Two months later, the entire team was there with a wonderful beginning. Hundreds were making decisions. The young ministers wife had barely made it. Her condition was poor. She could not retain food. She was in pain. She now had two tumors - both as large as the one removed two months before. Late on Tuesday evening the team gathered in the hotel - the pastor met with them and they brought the matter to God.

✓ First, they said what were we basing our prayer on.

✓ Second, why do we want God to do it.

✓ Third, how were we expressing our faith.

As they thought about these questions, they were in sincerity. They said we want the healing for the glory of God. For the witness of his power - that all may know there is yet a God. They knew that the young couple was reconciled to God. And the Holy Spirit had impressed them that the prayer of faith would save the sick - which I believe, in some cases, that applies. They shared the deep conviction - and so they tested their wills. And they expressed their faith and action. And the young couple continued to minister just like she were already healed. And it dawned upon them that they had stopped trusting too soon. So they began to pray again - each in his own way thanking God for healing her. Refusing to doubt - left expecting - and the next day he took his wife to the doctor for the confirmation. They had boundless joy - the doctor called, the tumors are gone - I can't find them. You can imagine

the doctor's amazement when the young pastor calmly said - I knew it. They had a wonderful crusade - there were over 1500 persons who received Christ. But there are times when God will bless us with multiplied blessings.

There needs to be something in our lives - that will be miraculous. That will be like such faith. The wilderness - is it worth it? When we really learn to trust - that seems to be what it is for. The wilderness is for trusting as well as testing.

Now God will bring us and he will bring you - as he has brought me many times to this place. Where I have to exercise my faith or else miss a blessing.