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EXPECT IMPACT


EXPECT IMPACT



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  A[Non Followers] --> B[Consumers]
  B --> C[Contributors]
  C --> D[Core Followers]
  
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EXPECT IMPACT

- First, Core followers contend for the kingdom through expectant faith.
- “You of little faith” – Matthew 6:30
- “I haven’t seen such great faith...” Mt. 8:10
- “You of little faith, why are you so afraid?” (Mt. 8:26)
- “When Jesus saw their faith . . .” Mt. 9:2
- “Your faith has healed you.” Mt. 9:22
- “According to your faith let it be done to you.” Mt. 9:29

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EXPECT IMPACT


- First, Core followers contend for the kingdom through expectant faith.
- “He did not do many miracles there because of their lack of faith.” Mt. 13:58
- “You of little faith, why do you doubt?” (Mt. 14:31)
- “Woman, you have great faith!” Mt. 15:28
- “You of little faith...” Mt. 16:8



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EXPECT IMPACT

- “Because you have so little faith. Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, ‘move from here to there,’ and it will move.” (Mt. 17:20f)
- Mt. 21:21, “truly I tell you, if you have faith and do not doubt, not only can you do what was done to the fig tree, but also you can say to this mountain, ‘Go, throw yourself into the sea,’ and it will be done. If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer.”




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EXPECT IMPACT

- First, Core followers contend for the kingdom through expectant faith.
- Core followers have been awakened to the reality of God’s kingdom, and aren’t willing to settle for a powerless version of Christianity. They hold on to God for the fulfillment of His kingdom promises.



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EXPECT IMPACT

- First, Core followers contend for the kingdom through expectant faith.
- Ephesians 1:18f, "I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the *hope* to which he has called you, the *riches* of his glorious inheritance in the his people, and his incomparably great *power* for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms." (invisible fence)


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EXPECT IMPACT

- Second, core followers contend for the kingdom through processing disappointment.
- We experience set backs, disappointments. (not everyone is healed; struggle to connect) What do we do with the disappointments?
- We must choose not to take offense. Instead, we turn disappointments into opportunities for growth. (James 1:2f, "Consider it pure joy, my brothers & sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.")

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EXPECT IMPACT

- Second, core followers contend for the kingdom through processing disappointment.
- When we embrace the testing, it deepens our faith, character and intimacy with God, so that we have more capacity for God in our lives, and we can contend for more of His Kingdom. (e.g., Peter & John heal the beggar; threatened & told not to preach, but they keep preaching. Brought back and persecuted.)
- Acts 5:40-41, "They called the apostles in and had them flogged... The apostles left the Sanhedrin rejoicing that they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name." (dryness)

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EXPECT IMPACT

- Third, core followers contend for the kingdom through persevering in Spirit-inspired risks. (e.g., Peter; walking on water; speaking up first; 'rise and walk'; his shadow)
- Even Jesus had to persevere in taking Spirit-inspired risks. (Mark 8:22-26)
- Why is it necessary to persist? (Enemy resistance; Wobbly faith – recent e.g.,)
- If we are going to persist in Spirit-inspired risk-taking, we have to have an "I don't have to survive" attitude. (sick neighbor; Kid in store)