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On iTunes, search “oologah church of Christ” in the podcast section

Service Times

Sunday

Bible Class: 9:30 A.M.
Worship: 10:30 A.M. & 5 P.M.
Sonshiners: 4:45pm

Wednesday

Bible Study: 7 P.M.

Preacher:

Russ Earl

AM Sermon:

Humble Service (Phil 2:5-9)

PM Sermon

Obadiah

Sunday AM Bible Class:

Living on the Lord's side – R. Earl

Wednesday Bible Class:

Paul Praschnik

The Gospel of Christ TV Program

on Saturday @ 7:30am on Channel 53

BibleWayMediaMedia.org

Daily podcasts available on our website
& mobile app

The Oologah church of Christ only uses
the **KJV, NKJV or ASV** translation of
the Bible in classes & sermons.

The Oologah Informer

April 18th, 2021

Increase Our Faith!

By Jack H. Williams

“When the going gets tough, the tough get going!” This well-known saying is attributed to several sources, but we all are able to understand the meaning. Tough things happen, but we can be tougher than the things we face. I don’t know about you, but I have a bit of problem in that I am not to “tough”! But do we realize the spiritual application of this concept? We know that there will be times in which we all will have our faith tried (2 Timothy 3:12) but God has given us the ability to be spiritually “tough” in the situations that we confront. Take for instance the account recorded for us in Luke 17. The apostles were told by Jesus that when people did wrong to to them (“trespass”) and repent that the wrong doer was to be forgiven. He then told them, “And if he trespass against thee seven times in a day, and seven times in a day turn again to thee, saying, I repent; thou shalt forgive him” (3-4). Now we all know that is difficult! So how did the apostles think they could face this? In verse 5 we read, “And the apostles said unto the Lord, Increase our faith.” So maybe our phrase should be changed to “When challenges to our faith get strong, the faithful get going!”

We know that no matter what the circumstance that comes before a child of God, God has given us the ability to “get going”. John recorded for us, “...this is the victory that overcometh the world, *even* our faith” (1 John 5:4). And I think all would agree that each of us, like the apostles, need to “increase our faith”. Thankfully the means to accomplish this clearly given by God. In the Roman letter Paul stated, “...faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Romans 10:17). If you and I are to successfully face the challenges to our faith in the days before us (and they will be there) we must meet the challenge to look to the Word of God so that our faith will be strengthened and the battles won!

A couple of questions come to mind.

- First of all, “How is my faith?” Do I place myself above the apostles that were accompanying Jesus and refuse to realize that I need to increase my faith?
- Secondly, “What am I going to do about it?”

I can think of several things that will aid me – regular participation in the assemblies of course is one very obvious one (Hebrews 10:23-25). But there are others – and each focuses on learning more of God’s word! Will we meet the challenge in the coming year and use what God has blessed us with so that we can increase our faith?