



BIBLE STUDY

Active Faith III: EXPECTANCY PRODUCES BOLDNESS

Foundational Principle: Faith is movement, not a statement.

Luke 5:17–20 (NKJV)

I. FAITH IS OBEDIENCE TO GOD

II. OBEDIENCE CREATES EXPECTANCY

III. EXPECTANCY PRODUCES BOLDNESS

Supporting Scriptures: Proverbs 28:1; Hebrews 4:16; 1 John 5:14–15; Romans 1:16

Boldness Is Faith in Motion. There is a difference between saying that God can do something and having the boldness to act because you trust Him. Many people say they believe God, but when they encounter resistance, uncertainty, or obstacles, they hesitate. Expectancy is the confidence that God is faithful to His Word. Boldness is the willingness to act on that confidence.

For example, a person may say that God wants people to hear the gospel but remain silent because of fear of rejection. Another person may say that God answers prayer but never approach Him with confidence. In both cases, the person has made a statement of faith without allowing that faith to produce movement. Remember that faith is movement, not just a statement. Active faith changes this pattern. We do not become bold because we know everything that will happen. We become bold because we know the God in whom we trust, is with us. – **Hebrews 13:5-6**

1. Expectancy Gives Us The Boldness To Approach God - **Hebrews 4:16 (NKJV)** - "Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need."

When you face a difficult decision:

- ❖ Boldness will not allow uncertainty to keep you from praying.
- ❖ Boldness causes you to approach God with confidence in His grace.
- ❖ Boldness ensures you act on the wisdom that God gives.
- ❖ Boldness guarantees that you take the steps that align with His instruction.



2. Expectancy Gives Us The Courage To Face Fear- Proverbs 28:1 (NKJV) -“The wicked flee when no one pursues, But the righteous are bold as a lion.”

Biblical boldness does not mean that a person never feels fear. It means fear does not have to control that person's decisions. When our confidence rests in God, we can face situations that would otherwise cause us to retreat. - 1 Timothy 1:7

How expectancy produces boldness:

- ❖ We speak the truth even when others may disagree.
- ❖ We share our faith even when we risk rejection.
- ❖ We do what is right even when it is unpopular.
- ❖ We confront challenges rather than automatically running away from them.

3. Biblical Example: Four Men Who Exhibited Boldness Because Of Their Expectations- Luke 5:17–20 (NKJV)

Luke 5:17–20 tells the story of men who brought a paralyzed man to Jesus. They wanted him to receive help, but the crowd prevented them from getting close enough to bring him inside. Instead of turning around, they carried him onto the roof, removed tiles, and lowered him on his bed into the middle of the crowd, in front of Jesus.

Verse 20 says that when Jesus saw their faith, He said to the man, “Man, your sins are forgiven you.” This story illustrates what boldness produced by expectancy looks like.

A. Their expectancy gave them a reason to act – Verse 17-18

The men did not simply say that Jesus could help their friend. They did not say somebody ought to help him. They did not just pray that Jesus would heal the man. They carried him to Jesus. Their actions demonstrated that they believed bringing him to Jesus was worth the effort.

B. Their boldness refused to surrender to an obstacle – Verse 19

The crowd blocked the obvious route. They could have concluded that the opportunity was over. Instead, they found another way to get their friend to Jesus. Their boldness was not recklessness. It was determined action in pursuit of a worthy purpose.



C. Their faith was visible in what they did - Verse 20: Faith is visible; your faith can be seen by Jesus and others.

Luke 5:20 says Jesus saw their faith. The narrative presents their determined actions as evidence of their trust. This illustrates the principle of Active Faith: faith becomes visible through the choices we make.

Application: If you believe Christian education transforms lives, invite someone to class. If you believe prayer matters, establish a consistent prayer practice. If you believe people need Christian community, personally connect them with a Life Group.

D. Their actions brought their friend into the presence of Jesus.

The men could not heal their friend themselves, but they could bring him to the One who had authority to heal. That is an important distinction. We are responsible for faithful action; we are not responsible for controlling God's response. Jesus addressed the man's spiritual need and subsequently healed him, demonstrating His authority. The men did what they could; Jesus did what only He could do.

Application: We cannot force someone to believe, guarantee a particular miracle, or control another person's response to the gospel. We can faithfully pray, invite, teach, encourage, and serve. **Bold faith does not stop at an obstacle. It looks for a faithful way forward.**

Expectancy produces boldness because we trust God's character, the access we have through Christ, and the faithfulness of His Word. **Luke 5:17-20:** Expectancy becomes visible when we act despite obstacles.

The four men in **Luke 5** did not allow the crowd to determine whether their friend would reach Jesus. They found another way forward. The challenge for every believer is this: Stop allowing obstacles to have the final word about your obedience. Believe God's Word, trust Christ, and take the next faithful step.

Closing declaration

My faith is more than a statement. Because I trust God, I will approach Him with confidence, stand firm in the face of fear, and act on His Word. When I encounter obstacles, I will find a faithful way forward. I will not merely talk about faith. I will put my faith into motion.