

# The Sixth Sense

## Acts 3:1-16

(Please be patient with me. God is not through with me yet.)

Every person is born with the five natural senses (see, hear, smell, taste, and feel). Every person born again, a child of God, has a sixth sense called faith. We must discern when it is appropriate to rely upon or use our five senses and when to use our sixth sense. Because God gave us these five natural senses, they do have a purpose. Without seeing, we would be unable to look around and see God's great handiwork in the earth and what he's doing in each of our lives. Without hearing, we would not even have faith because Romans 10:17 tells us faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God. So, we need our five natural senses. But sometimes our natural senses give us a distorted or incomplete view of our circumstances and situations. In the natural, what we see may not look so good. Your children may be having problems in school or at home. Your finances may be running low or you may need a job or a better job. In the natural, what we hear might not sound so good. You may receive a bad diagnosis or a report from the doctor. You may hear the company is downsizing and layoffs are inevitable. In the natural, how we feel, might not feel so good, what we smell might not smell so good and what we taste might not taste so good. You've heard the saying "that put a bad taste in my mouth". Oh, but taste and see that the Lord is good! That's when we must lay aside our natural senses and activate our supernatural sense, the sixth sense called faith.

You get the point. This may be the facts. Faith does not deny the facts. Faith says despite the facts, I believe God. I know God is able. I know my Father who art in heaven is a provider and a healer. Whose report are you going to believe? Always believe the report of the Lord. For we walk by faith and not by sight.

Well, you might say, sometimes that's easier said than done when you have so much coming at you and against you if we are real about it. Believe me, I know. My job relocated me from one city to our HQ in another city at the beginning of 2011. Honestly, I did not want to go, but it was God's will so I was obedient and went. However, my attitude was not right. Even though I went as opposed to looking for another job, I was upset and didn't understand why God was allowing this to happen. You see he was taking me out of my comfort zone, away from close friends and a peaceful atmosphere into the lions' den, I felt. But God was patient with me and I eventually came around to seeing things his way; although I still did not know what he was up to. Well to make a long story short, the purpose behind me being there began to unfold (manifest). The day came when one of my co-workers asked me to pray for her. Earlier that day, another co-worker seemed unlike herself so that same co-worker mentioned that she believed they could call on me to pray for her. That afternoon as I drove home, I just wept and asked God to forgive me for being so selfish, so self-centered, thinking of my discomfort not realizing this whole situation was not even about me really. He had me there to be a light in the midst of darkness and I understood that now. We often don't know or realize what God's plan is or reason for doing something or allowing something in our lives, but if we keep the faith and trust him, he will get the glory.

Faith must be developed and matured within the believer. I know He is still maturing me. As Paul stated in Romans 12:3 to a group of believers "God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith. Although He was specifically showing that God has given each believer specific gifts to enable him to do what God wants him to do, each believer must have faith to operate in those gifts. Matthew 17:20 says, "If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you." The mustard seed was the smallest seed known in Jesus' day. When planted, it had the potential to become a fifteen-foot plant. Even though our faith may start out small or confined to certain areas, it has the potential to become enormous and spread. As a matter of fact, we should be ever increasing in our faith (faith to faith, glory to glory).

It takes faith to live as single men and women of God. It takes faith to not compromise. It takes faith to not pick up the phone and call John or Sue, your ex. It takes faith to wait on God and be of good courage. I believe God will supply all of our needs according to his riches in glory, so we don't have to settle for less than God's best in our life. We don't have to depend on a man or woman to provide for us. It takes faith to lift and maintain a standard of holiness.

God wants to get us to the place where he can trust us to do signs and wonders, perform miracles in our midst. He's wanting us to purify and consecrate ourselves, get our lives in check so he can manifest his power in our midst. He must be able to trust us--we won't say it's all about our church, look what we did, but it will be all God's glory, so he will be glorified.

Just like in the days of old when Peter walked past people and they were healed by his shadow, God can empower us to do the same today. We can see blinded eyes opened, deaf ears unstopped and the lame walk. We should be able to tell our sisters and brothers who have been "lame" (physically, mentally, spiritually) from birth that today can be a new day in Jesus Christ. You might have gotten up one way, but you could go to bed another way. We should be able to take a brother or sister by the right hand and lift him or her up. Lift them up from hopelessness, despair, depression/oppression, suicidal thoughts and distress. Lift them up from low-self-esteem or no self-esteem. Lift them up from abusive and ungodly relationships. Then that sister or brother will glorify God because of the change made in his or her life. Change in their way of thinking, perception of things. Renewed Mind.

It doesn't matter how long you've been in a certain way or in a certain condition (lame in your thinking, physical walk (legs), finances). You can "walk" today. Don't care how things were yesterday or this morning, you can walk. I know the enemy has convinced you with lies that you would always be this way (always robbing Peter to pay Paul, always bringing up the rear, always alone), but he's a liar, the father of lies. I can relate to being a certain way or thinking a certain way from childhood.

Peter said silver and gold have I none (I may not have a million dollars in the bank, own a mansion or drive the fanciest car), but such as I have, give I to thee. I don't have silver and gold, but I have the spirit of the living God on the inside, I have the power and anointing of God resting upon my life. I can tell you with authority that you don't have to be this way any longer! How do I know Peter had authority? Because he took the man by the right hand. Faith is man responding to God's word and will. Faith is believing God concerning what He has said, knowing God's will, and then acting on it. This man was healed because God willed it as a sign, and then because Peter acted on what God's Spirit witnessed to him. (STAND YOUR GROUND)

That depressed sister, that oppressed brother, that suicidal son or daughter (lame in one way or another)- lift him or her up, take them by the right hand in the spirit. Why the right hand? Because it is signified that authority has been granted. We have the authority in Jesus Christ to do greater works, to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ and in doing so people will be healed (physically, mentally and spiritually)! It might not be manifested yet, but by faith, they will be healed. We must not doubt. Peter believed by faith the lame man would walk. We must know the God we serve.

So, remember the Sixth Sense and please be patient with me. God is not through with me yet!

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