

VIRAL: Contagious Faith

...Joshua and his entire army, including his best warriors, left Gilgal and set out for Gibeon. ⁸ “Do not be afraid of them,” the LORD said to Joshua, “for I have given you victory over them. Not a single one of them will be able to stand up to you.”

⁹ Joshua traveled all night from Gilgal and took the Amorite armies by surprise. ¹⁰ The LORD threw them into a panic, and the Israelites slaughtered great numbers of them at Gibeon. Then the Israelites chased the enemy....As the Amorites retreated...the LORD destroyed them with a terrible hailstorm from heaven that continued until they reached Azekah. The hail killed more of the enemy than the Israelites killed with the sword.

¹² On the day the LORD gave the Israelites victory over the Amorites, Joshua prayed to the LORD in front of all the people of Israel. He said,

“Let the **sun stand still** over Gibeon, and the moon over the valley of Aijalon.”

¹³ So the sun stood still and the moon stayed in place until the nation of Israel had defeated its enemies...The sun stayed in the middle of the sky, and it did not set as on a normal day. ¹⁴ There has never been a day like this one before or since, when the LORD answered such a prayer. Surely the LORD fought for Israel that day!

Joshua 10:7-14 selected (NLT)

Compelling Characteristics of Contagious Faith:

1. Leaves room for God to work miracles on the inside or outside.

*Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God's peace, which **exceeds anything we can understand**. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.*

Philippians 4:6-7 (NLT)

2. Draws strength from seeing God's promises as already done.

“Do not be afraid of them,” the LORD said to Joshua, “for I have given you victory over them. Not a single one of them will be able to stand up to you.”

Joshua 10:8 (NLT)

“We know that in everything God works for the good of those who love him. They are the people he called, because that was his plan. ²⁹ God knew them before he made the world, and he chose them to be like his Son so that Jesus would be the firstborn of many brothers and sisters. ³⁰ God planned for them to be like his Son; and those he planned to be like his Son, he also called; and those he called, he also made right with him; and those he made right, he also glorified.”

Romans 8:28-30 (NLT)

3. Believes that God's grace can turn mistakes into miracles.

So the Israelites examined their food, but they did not consult the LORD. Then Joshua made a peace treaty with them and guaranteed their safety, and the leaders of the community ratified their agreement with a binding oath.

Joshua 9:14-15 (NLT)

¹³ *So the sun stood still and the moon stayed in place until the nation of Israel had defeated its enemies...*

Joshua 10:13 (NLT)

4. Knows that sometimes God is waiting for the first person bold enough to believe Him for something completely insane.

If God chooses not to answer the way you would want, don't let it be because you never asked.

Your Next Step:

Could you be the one whose contagious faith someone else needs to see?

What "*sun stand still*" prayer have you been afraid to ask?

- Can you trust God to creatively work within His promise to work things out for your good?
- Could it be that there is a completely insane request that God has been waiting for someone bold enough to ask?
- Could that person be you?

Suggested Resources:

Sun Stand Still, by Steven Furtick

If You Want To Walk On Water You Have To Get Out of the Boat, by John Ortberg