



Luke 17:5 NLT *The apostles said to the Lord,  
"Show us HOW TO INCREASE OUR FAITH."*

*Enlarging our ability to confidently trust in God and in His power*  
IN Favor Resources video teaching series

## #20 HOLDING ON TO OUR FAITH: WHEN WE ARE DISAPPOINTED

The Bible is \_\_\_\_\_ of disappointed people:

- ▶ Sarah, Rebekah, Rachel, Hannah, Elizabeth ▶ Job ▶ Joseph
- ▶ Moses: Deuteronomy 32:52 *Therefore, you will see the land only from a distance; you will not enter the land I am giving to the people of Israel.* ▶ Mary and Martha ▶ Jesus' disciples
- ▶ The Old Testament faithful: Hebrews 11:39 *These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised,* <sup>40</sup> since God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect. ▶ Solomon: Ecclesiastes 2:20 *Therefore I completely despaired of all the fruit of my labor for which I had labored under the sun.* ▶ God! Genesis 6:6 *The Lord was sorry that he had made man on the earth, and he was grieved in his heart.*

*Lessons from Jesus' conversation with Mary and Martha:*

- 1) *Jesus' delay was not because he was unaware or didn't care!* It wasn't because Lazarus—or the sisters—had sinned. *And it was not a mistake.* This was \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2) Jesus delayed because he \_\_\_\_\_ Lazarus (11:5-6) and he planned to show his \_\_\_\_\_ (11:4). He demonstrated both by raising Lazarus back to life from the dead.
- 3) *The sisters \_\_\_\_\_ have their prayer answered*—their brother was alive; and God received the glory as this incident caused many people to put their faith in Jesus.

Kaitlin Miller: "Could it be that these are the same reasons he has for allowing our disappointments too? Could his love for you and his desire to show his glory be the train tracks that led you to the circumstances in which you find yourself today? And if so, would it change your perspective, your prayers, your hope?" Would we look at our disappointments differently?

### **Pressing in:**

- God saw the devastation of Hagar in the desert (Genesis 16:7-10, 13) and the heartache of Leah (29:31-32). He saw the injustice done to Jacob (31:42) and the suffering, enslavement, and misery of the Israelites (Exodus 2:23-24; 3:7-9). *He sees \_\_\_\_\_ today.*
- Jesus bore our griefs and carried our sorrows (Isaiah 53:4)
- In the end, God will wipe away every tear from our eye (Revelation 21:4)
- Until then, he promises to \_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_ and saved the crushed in spirit (Psalm 34:18)

Remember: Romans 10:11 For the Scripture says, "Whoever believes in Him will not be disappointed."

"No matter what we've lost or may one day lose, still we have all good things in him. His ways and thoughts are higher than our own. We who trust in him will not be put to shame. And as our broken hearts wait for faith to be made sight, we can be sure that he draws near to save us." *Kaitlin Miller*



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