



# THE INSIDE RUNNING

# COURAGEOUS FAITH

By Derek Prince

Most of us go through difficult situations where our faith is tested in the fire. What is our response to adversity? This month we feature the story of Pastor Don McDonell's near fatal crash. Paralyzed and in hospital, Don proclaimed scripture and attempted the impossible – to literally walk by faith.

As we come to the end of the year it is a great time to evaluate our Men's Small Groups and Men's Ministries. Work out what has gone well for you and what needs to be improved as we make plans for next year. Spiritual disciplines should also be reviewed.

A few years ago I responded to Pat Morley's challenge (see back page) to read the Bible in one year. For simplicity I used a one year Bible and I am now thinking about using a different translation or arrangement like the Chronological Bible for the New Year. Will you join me in 2010? There are 8 reading plans on the DVD ROM, or like me, you may want to get a one year Bible.

Let's be encouragers!

*John*  
John Subritzky

**Spiritual fruit expresses the nature of the life from which it proceeds; it comes only as the result of a process of growth. To attain the best fruit, a life must be carefully cultivated—with time, skill and labour.**

Spiritual gifts express *ability*, fruit expresses *character*. The character we develop in this life will determine what we will be throughout eternity. One day we will leave our gifts behind; our character will remain forever.

When all nine forms of spiritual fruit are present and fully developed, they represent the totality of Christian character, each form of fruit satisfying a specific need and each complementing the rest. Within this totality, the fruit of faith may be viewed from two aspects that correspond to two different but related uses of the Greek word *pistis*.

The first is *trust*; the second is *trustworthiness*.

of every situation and that, in and through all circumstances, God is working out His own purpose of blessing for each one of His children.

The outward expression of this kind of trust is *stability*. This is beautifully pictured by David in Psalm 125:1: "Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved, but abides forever." All earth's mountains may tremble and shake and even be totally removed—except for one. Zion can never be moved. God has chosen it for His own dwelling place, and it alone will abide forever. So it is with the believer who has learned to trust. Others all around him may give way to panic and confusion, but he remains calm and secure. "His foundation is in the holy mountains" (Psalm 87:1).



### Faith as Trust

The first aspect of faith as a fruit is trust. More fully, the fruit of faith—in this aspect—may be defined as a quiet, steady, unwavering trust in the goodness, wisdom and faithfulness of God. No matter what trials or seeming disasters may be encountered, the person who has cultivated this form of fruit remains calm and restful in the midst of it all. He has an unshakable confidence that God is still in complete control

### Faith as Trustworthiness

We turn now to the second aspect of faith as a fruit: trustworthiness.

Probably no attribute of God is more persistently emphasised throughout the Scriptures than His trustworthiness. In the Old Testament there is one special Hebrew word reserved for this attribute: *chesed*, which is variously translated "goodness," "kindness," "lovingkindness," or "mercy."

Scripture paints a fearful picture of the breakdown of moral and ethical standards that will mark the close of this present age (see 2 Timothy 3:1–4). As the world thus plunges deeper into darkness, God's people must—by contrast—be more determined than ever to walk in the light of fellowship.

Excerpted from "Faith as Fruit" The full article is on the December issue of WiseChoices DVD ROM.

# WHAT'S ON THE DVD



## FEATURED SPEAKER

**Don McDonnell** tells the story about how he survived a men's event that went badly wrong and ended with three men helicoptered off Muriwai beach to hospital. A high speed collision between four wheel bikes left Don paralysed. Hear how he pulled through and the part faith in God and encouragement from his wife played in his miraculous recovery. People are not always healed, but how does our faith handle adversity? *48 min*

## Let's Read Through the Bible Together!

By Pat Morley



In 2005, I challenged the 150 men who attend our Friday morning Man in the Mirror Bible Study by saying, "Let's read through the Bible together in 2005!"

Over 70 men accepted the challenge! We purchased some One Year Bibles, and just did it. During the year I occasionally asked, "How are you doing?" Not only did most of the men keep it up, but they were excited about how God was meeting, teaching, and changing them.

Later that year I had breakfast with Sam. As we were about to leave, Sam mentioned a verse he had read in The One Year Bible. Unbeknown to the other men at his table, Sam had accepted the challenge to read through the Bible in 2005. He was right up to date!

Sam was being transformed by the powerful Word of God. Sam was encouraged, and the experience reinforced his desire to know God better.

Jim, another man at the Bible study, put it this way: "I'm learning so much. I've always wanted to read through the Bible, but could just never get motivated. This is one of the greatest things I've ever done. It's interesting to learn how God has worked in other generations. And reading it for myself has changed my life."

Read the full article including helpful hints on the December Issue 6 of WiseChoices DVD ROM.

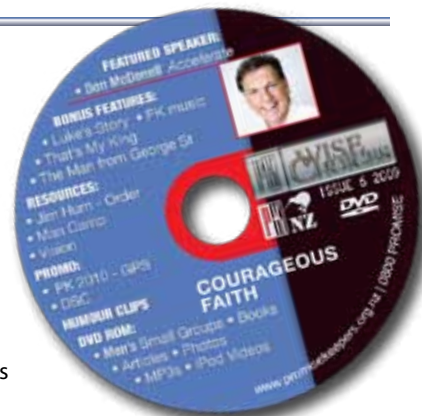
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## Bonus Features:

- **Luke's Story** describes the effect of porn on a young man. Another insightful episode from 3X Church. *6 min*
- **PK music.** "The Stand" – from Auckland Event 09. *4 min*
- **That's My King** – Powerful description of God that brings out the best of the American preaching tradition. *3 min*
- **The Man from George Street** – Faith-building example of how vision and tenacity can produce an abundant harvest, even when we are unaware of the impact. *8 min*



## Resources:

- **Jim Hurn** describes his **four keys for bringing order** into his life so that he can be more effective. How can you apply this in the New Year? *2 min*

## Coaching:

- **Man Camp** is an edit of Whangaparaoa Baptist's promo video. Who can outdo these guys? *2 min*
- **Vision** – Paul and Dean talk about casting vision for Men's Ministry. This is timely as we move into 2010. *3 min*

## Promo:

- **PK 2010 GPS** Event promo
- **Developing Spiritual Champions workshops** are coming in March 2010.

## DVD ROM:

**Study Questions** for Don McDonnell's featured video.

## Articles and tools:

- **Men's Small Groups** – evaluate your group's progress with this tool.
- **Bible reading plans** – 8 different plans to choose from. Make a new start in the New Year!
- **Bible in a Year** – Pat Morley talks about how encouraging each other in a group made for real life changes that lasted.
- **"Faith as a Fruit"** by Derek Prince
- **"Thriving in Chaotic Times"** and **"Facing Adversity"** – timely articles from Focus on the Family.

## Books:

- **"The Secret of God's Anointing"** by Bill Subritzky. This short book describes how to know more of the presence of God in your life.
- **"Full of Surprises"** by Mark Beale. The story of planting a new Anglican church in South Auckland and then reaching out effectively into the community.

**Photos: Auckland 2009** – 94 photos selected from the 1,900 taken at the Event.

**MP3s: Audio tracks** from 6 of the videos on the DVD.

**iPod Videos:** Small format **MP4 videos** from 3 of the videos on the DVD.

## Workshops for Men's Ministry 2010

- Invercargill:** Mon 1 March
- Dunedin:** Tues 2 March
- Christchurch:** Wed 3 March
- Nelson:** Thurs 4 March
- Wellington:** Mon 15 March
- Palmerston Nth:** Tues 16 March
- Tauranga:** Wed 17 March
- Hamilton:** Thurs 18 March
- Auckland:** Fri 19 March

DEVELOPING SPIRITUAL CHAMPIONS

