

**“Doing the Impossible,” *Ephesians 3:14-21*, page 1144**

**Introduction:**

1. The Bible is filled with examples of God doing the impossible.
  - A. Parting of the Red Sea.
  - B. Hebrew children in fiery furnace.
  - C. Daniel in lions’ den.
  - D. Birth of Jesus Christ.
  - E. Turning water into wine.
2. There are also several examples of Bible personalities doing things that seemed impossible:
  - A. Apostle Peter walking on the water.
  - B. Healing of lame man by apostles.
3. We realize the apostles could only do the impossible because of the power given them by Jesus Christ.
4. This power has been promised to New Testament believers in *Ephesians 4*.
5. Several questions come to mind:
  - A. Is it possible to do the impossible today?
  - B. What part must we play in doing the impossible?
  - C. Are we always successful in doing the impossible?
  - D. Who is to blame when we fail?
6. I do not have all the answers, but there are some important facts to consider.

**I. “All things are possible...,” *Mark 14:32-36*, page 987.**

- A. *Mark 14:36*: “And He said, ‘Abba, Father, all things are possible for you. Take this cup away from Me; nevertheless, not what I will, but what You will.’”
- B. Throughout His earthly ministry, Jesus taught us about doing the impossible and showed us His ability to do the impossible.
- C. I believe Jesus, just before His crucifixion, taught four very imperative facts concerning doing the impossible:
  1. With God everything is possible! (Believe)
  2. We must share our requests with God the Father. (Three times)
  3. We must realize that sometimes our requests are not in harmony with God’s will for our lives. (Very difficult)
  4. We must be willing to accept God’s final decision as best for us. (Painful)
- D. We begin with a firm belief that all things are possible with God.

**II. “According to your faith...,” *Matthew 9:27-31*, page 940.**

- A. *Matthew 9:29*: “Then He touched their eyes, saying, ‘According to your faith let it be to you.’”
- B. Our faith does not do the impossible.
- C. Our faith releases God to do the impossible.
  1. First we must believe God can fulfill our requests.
  2. Second we must share our requests with God.

3. Third we must have a faith that is strong enough to believe God will do what is best for us.
- D. The apostle Paul gives us an excellent example of how to request God to do the impossible: *II Corinthians 12:7-10*: “*And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure. Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. And He said to me, ‘My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.’ Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ’s sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.*”
- E. Some would say that the apostle Paul came up empty—nothing impossible was done here!
- F. The apostle’s life, however, was a living example of God doing the impossible because of his affliction.

### III. **“My God shall supply all your needs...,” *Philippians 4:19*, page 1150.**

- A. God has unlimited resources available for us.
- B. There are two aspects of our personal resources that we must consider before we can expect God to use His resources to do the impossible:
  1. We must realize that God often uses our resources to accomplish the impossible. *Acts 3:1-11*, page 1063.
  2. We must be willing to use the resources wisely that God has already given us. *Mark 6:32-44*, page 975.
- C. The Gregg Fellowship Center is an example of doing what some would say is the impossible.
  1. God has provided us with the resources to complete this project.
  2. As we continue to give of our resources and our talents, the impossible will be realized!
- D. God sees the big picture:
  1. Our short earthly life.
  2. Our unending eternal life.
- E. Ann VanMarter, Charlene’s sister.
  1. For many years parents prayed for Ann’s salvation.
  2. Family prayed for Ann that her health would improve.
  3. At age 52, Ann left the hospital with a strong desire to spend her last few days at home.
  4. Physical healing was not realized, but salvation and heaven became a reality.
  5. Our son allowed God to use him as a successful witness during Ann’s last hours on earth.
- F. God’s plan is always the best plan.

### **Conclusion:**

1. What impossible thing/event would we like to have God accomplish in our lives?
2. God desires to do the impossible in us and through us.
3. God wants to change our lives so we can change our world.
4. Do not settle for average; expect to do the impossible!