

## INCREASE

growing the power to believe

### **“The Fuel For Our Faith”**

Conclusion to the series: “Increase: Growing the Power to Believe”

Sunday, October 1, 2017 • Pastor Parris Hayashi

*“Meanwhile his disciples urged him, ‘Rabbi, eat something.’<sup>32</sup>But he said to them, ‘I have food to eat that you know nothing about.’<sup>33</sup>Then his disciples said to each other, ‘Could someone have brought him food?’<sup>34</sup>‘My food,’ said Jesus, ‘is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work.’<sup>35</sup>Don’t you have a saying, ‘It’s still four months until harvest’? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest.<sup>36</sup>Even now the one who reaps draws a wage and harvests a crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together.”*  
(John 4:31-36)

### **Our faith is fueled, sustained, and increases when we obey the will of God our Father.**

*“My food,’ said Jesus, ‘is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work. Don’t you have a saying, “It’s still four months until harvest”? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest.”* (John 4:34-35)

### **Our faith increases as we are intentional about bringing people to Jesus.**

*“A few days later, when Jesus again entered Capernaum, the people heard that he had come home.<sup>2</sup>They gathered in such large numbers that there was no room left, not even outside the door, and he preached the word to them.<sup>3</sup>Some men came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them.<sup>4</sup>Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus by digging through it and then lowered the mat the man was lying on.<sup>5</sup>When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, ‘Son, your sins are forgiven.’<sup>6</sup>Now some teachers of the law were sitting there, thinking to themselves,<sup>7</sup>‘Why does this fellow talk like that? He’s blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?’<sup>8</sup>Immediately Jesus knew in his spirit that this was what they were thinking in their hearts, and he said to them, ‘Why are you thinking these things?<sup>9</sup>Which is easier: to say to this paralyzed man, “Your sins are forgiven,” or to say, “Get up, take your mat and walk”?<sup>10</sup>But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins.’ So he said to the man, ‘<sup>11</sup>I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home.’<sup>12</sup>He got up, took his mat and walked out in full view of them all. This amazed everyone and they praised God, saying, ‘We have never seen anything like this!’”* (Mark 2:1-12)

### **Our faith increases as we are unified in our mission.**

*“Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus by digging through it and then lowered the mat the man was lying on.”* (Mark 2:4)

*“Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!...For there the Lord has commanded the blessing...”* (Psalm 133:1,3 ESV)

*“I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called,<sup>2</sup>with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love,<sup>3</sup>eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.”* (Ephesians 4:1-3 ESV)

### **Our faith increases as we see Jesus respond.**

*“He got up, took his mat and walked out in full view of them all. This amazed everyone and they praised God, saying, ‘We have never seen anything like this!’”* (Mark 2:12)

### **Our faith increases when our priorities remain consistent with God’s priorities.**

*“For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”* (Luke 19:10 ESV)

*“Then Jesus came to them and said, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.<sup>19</sup>Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,<sup>20</sup>and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”* (Matthew 28:18-20)