

FAITH'S 5-PACK

The prophet Isaiah relays this from God: "You are my witnesses and my servant whom I have chosen, so that you may *know* and *believe* me and *understand* that I am he.If you do not stand firm in your faith, you will not stand at all" (Isaiah 43:10 and 7:9).

To equip followers of Jesus Christ to stand firm, Beth Moore, in *Believing God*, offers a "five-statement pledge of faith that encompasses virtually everything we're challenged to believe."

1. GOD IS WHO HE SAYS HE IS.

Everybody is looking for the way, for truth, for the best in life. They are all wrapped up in a Person.

Let's read John 14:1-7 (p. 229 MSG), Exodus 3:13-15 (p. NIV), John 1:1-5, (p. 788 NIV), Mark 1:9-11 (p. 78 MSG), Matthew 16:13-17 (p. 44 MSG).

2. I AM WHO GOD SAYS I AM.

"God don't make no junk." Herb Barks

Let's read from Psalm 139 (p. 467 NIV), Ephesians 1:3-12 (p. 422 MSG), 1 John 5:9-13 (p. 907 NIV), Ephesians 2:1-6 (p. 423 MSG),

3. GOD WILL DO WHAT HE SAYS HE WILL DO.

"Everything is possible to the one who believes.." said Jesus in His encounter with the father of the son with the demon spirit.

Let's read Mark 9:23-24 (p. 97 MSG).

What *has* God promised to do? (a) To **never abandon** those who trust Him (Hebrews 13). (b) Jesus will return to **take them to be with Him** forever (John 14, 1 Thessalonians 4, 1 Corinthians 15). (c) Because Jesus sacrificed His life for us on the cross to forgive *all* our sins, believers will **never face God's eternal judgment** for their sins (Hebrews 9, Romans 8). (Of course, in this life we'll pay the natural consequences for our sins.) (d) God will give His believers **peace** that's indescribable (John 14, Romans 5), **wisdom** to make right choices (James 1) and (Psalm 91). (e) And He'll **meet your needs** (Philippians 4).

4. WITH CHRIST'S STRENGTH I CAN DEAL WITH ANYTHING.

Let's read Philippians 4:6-14 (p. 439 MSG), Hebrews 11: 1-6 (p. 494 MSG) and 2 Corinthians 12:6-10 (p. 404 MSG).

5. GOD'S WORD IS ALIVE AND ACTIVE IN ME.

Let's read Hebrews 4:12-13 (p. 484 MSG) and 2 Timothy 3:14-17 (p. 471 MSG).

His Deal

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