





... above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. Ephesians 6:16 (NIV)

- The insensitive un-discerned words encountered by others.
- Words spoken in "jest" or "mocking."
- Arrogant words spoken in judgment, criticism or gossip.
- Words from others unaware from where they come (i.e. Peter's rebuke)

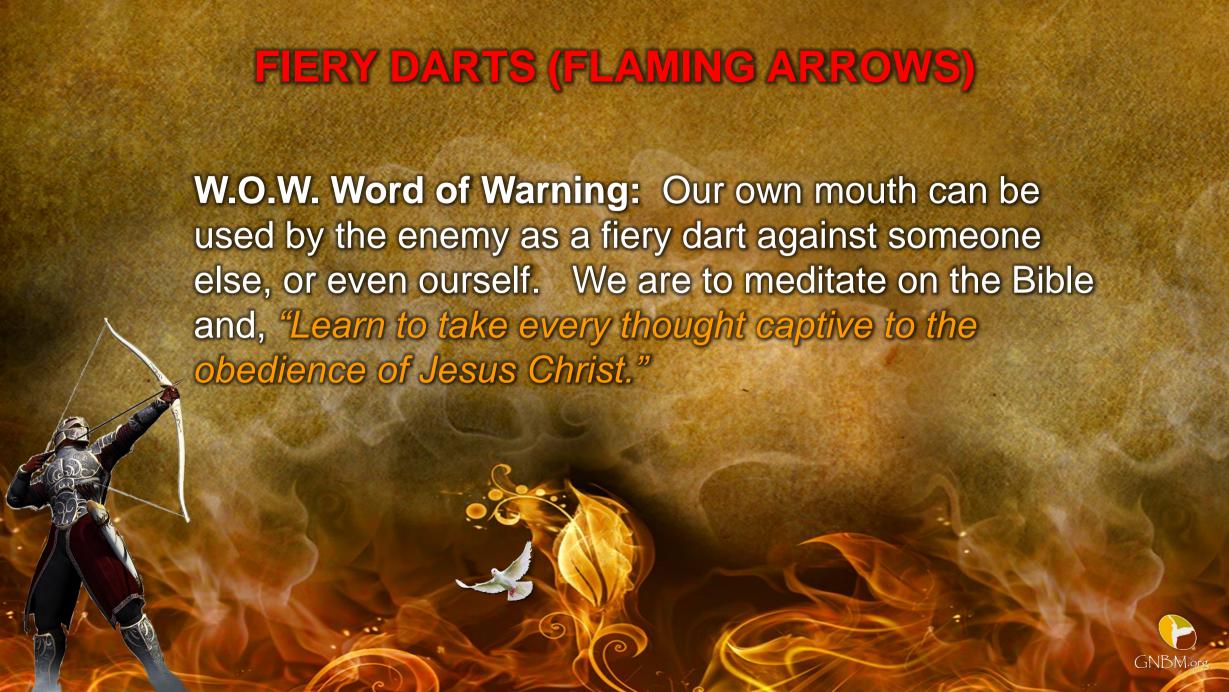




• Biblical Example: When Jesus was in the garden of Gethsemane with His apostles explaining his upcoming death. Peter rebuked his words, saying, "This shall never happen to you, Lord", and Christ said, "Get thee behind me Satan." (Matthew 16:23, Mark 8:3, Luke 4:8) He was not calling Peter, "Satan"; He was referring to the words Peter spoke without thinking.













In the Bible... the very center of all things

• Story after story in the Bible of Faith – Hebrews 11 – Noah and the Ark, Abraham and Sarah receiving a child in old age, Joseph knowing he would rule over his brothers, Moses and the Israelites in the wilderness, David and Goliath, Peter, Paul, the Apostles, Ester, Mary, Naomi, Ruth, etc...

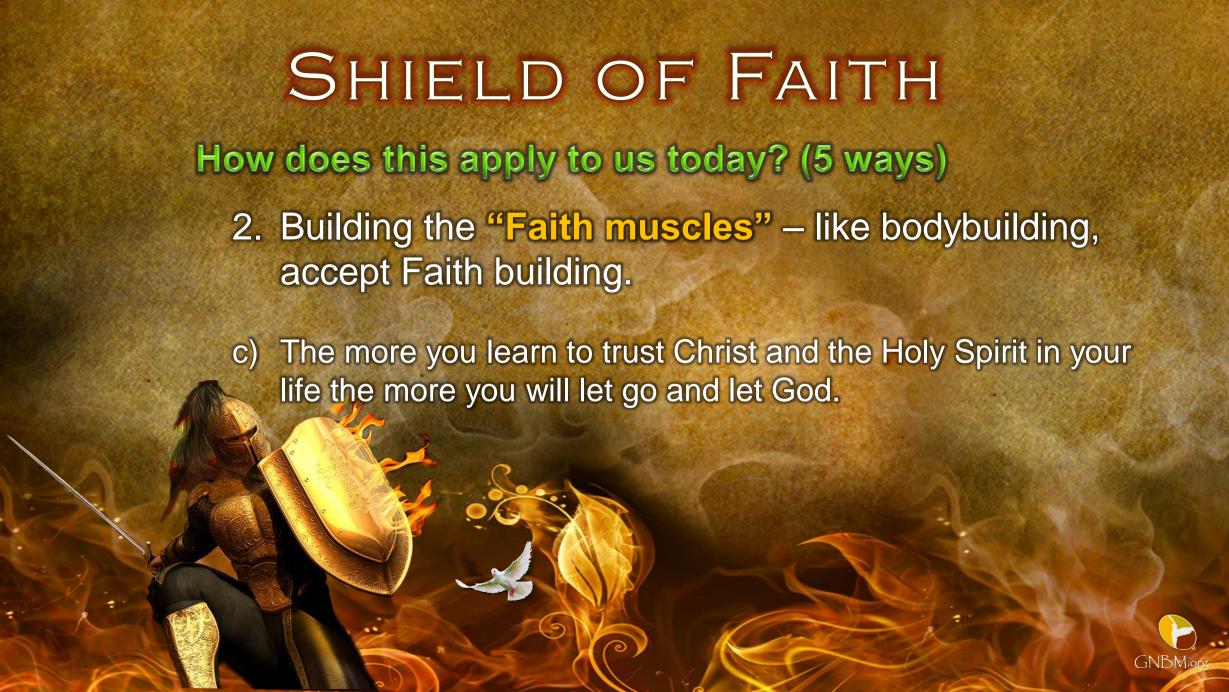




How does this apply to us today? (5 ways)

- 2. Building the "Faith muscles" like bodybuilding, accept Faith building.
- b) Stay in the day to day stay focused on what is right before you. Do not drift off with presumptions of what is going to happen in the future. Keep bringing whatever is on your heart to Christ throughout the day.







How does this apply to us today? (5 ways)

3. The Wilderness Period – you feel like you are just wandering around with no direction and no help.

a) If you are in the Wilderness period it is usually the time God is waiting for you to come to Him! Israelites in the dessert and getting to the Promised Land. They were so focused on their problems and needs they lost out on the relationship with God.







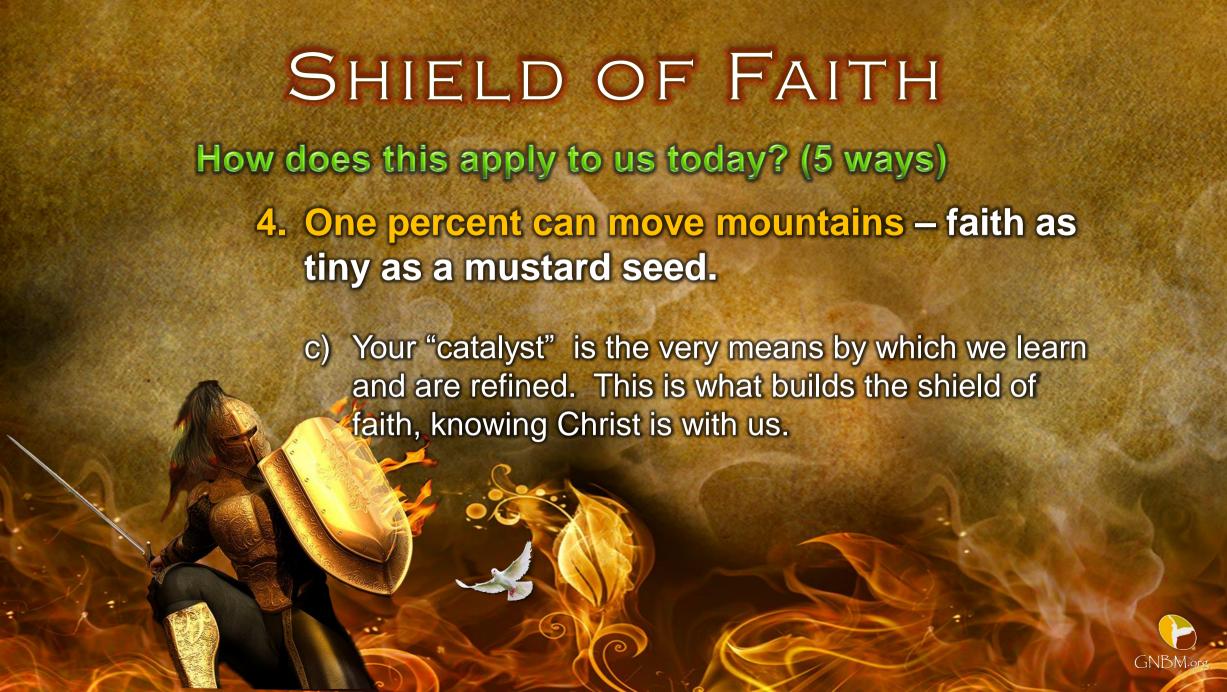
How does this apply to us today? (5 ways)

4. One percent can move mountains – faith as tiny as a mustard seed.

a) So Jesus said to them, "Because of your unbelief; for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you. Matthew 17:19-21







How does this apply to us today? (5 ways)

5. Count it all Joy?

#### a)Bible verses: There is a reason!!!

• "Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy (count it all joy). For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing." James 1:2-4 (NLT)







How does this apply to us today? (5 ways)

5. Count it all Joy?

c) ON A GLOBAL SCALE today – The Holy Spirit is bringing us in unity through our relationship with Jesus Christ and hearing His voice.

...until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. **Ephesians 4:13 (NIV)** 



















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contact@prayerwarriors365.com







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