

Christs fluithiness requires: the **obedience of faith** over the **reactions of fear**.

3 indispensable truths about how obedience makes us fruitfal:



*Therefore, consider carefully how you listen.
Whoever has will be given more; whoever does
not have, even what he thinks he has will be taken
from him."

Luke 8:18



2. We obey Jesus because everything obeys him



Christ's fruitfulness requires: the obedience of faith over the reactions of fear.









What is the unifying	dilemma in the stories?	
Whether to have	or give into	•



3 indispensable truths

about how obedience makes us fruitful:

- 1. To grow, you need to obey what you know.
- 2. We obey Jesus because everything obeys him.
- 3. To have faith, you can't give in to fear.

1. To grow, you need to obey what you know.

Parable of the Sower

Lamp on a stand

Jesus mother and brothers

"Whomever has <u>ears to hear, let</u> them hear." verse 8

"Therefore, consider carefully <u>how you</u> <u>listen</u>" verse 18

"my mother and brothers are <u>those who hear</u> <u>God's word</u> and <u>put it into practice.</u>" verse 21

"Therefore, consider carefully how you listen. Whoever has will be given more; whoever does not have, even what he thinks he has will be taken from him."

Luke 8:18

"will be taken..."

Deny the Word and cover up our real heart and the truth to get ahead.



We wither and do not experience the nourishing growth of repentance, faith, and obedience.



What we protected is eventually exposed, and we lose not only the growth we could have had, but the very things we tried to protect by avoiding the light.

"will be given more..."

We believe the Word and receive God's sentence on our sin and claim on our existence.



The exposure and humiliation of repentance and the freedom of faith lead to unpredicted growth and transformation.



What we risked in repentance, God gives us back through generosity, and we receive every good gift from the one we feared would take everything from us.

Why would Jesus say something so terrifying and mean?

Why lead his disciples into a storm...
Why let the demons go into 2000 pigs...
Why act like he was mad at the woman that touched him...

Because:

The fear of God and the truth is the greatest weapon against our fear of God and the truth.

2. We obey Jesus because everything obeys him elements, demons, disease, death.





"Lord, we are perishing!"

"Where is your faith?"

3. To have faith, you can't give in to fear.

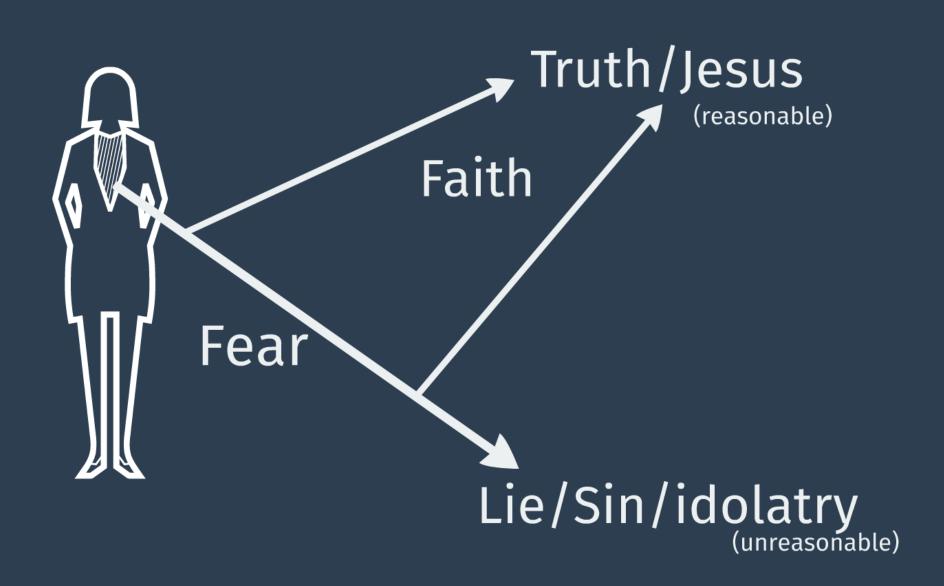
(that might be one of its definitions)

Fear is always present when faith is required.

(fear is stimulated by what requires the exercise of faith)

To "just believe" is the rejection of fear for faith.

(not the denial of reason)





(For those excited about the new Star Wars movie)

Fear is like the tentacles of Sarlaac, pulling you down into the pit.

Faith is like Han Solo trying to save you. You have to grab the pole and let him shoot.

Christ's fruitfulness requires: the obedience of faith over the reactions of fear.

To grow, you need to obey what you know.

We obey Jesus because everything obeys him.

To have faith, you can't give in to fear.