

The Pursuit of Excellence

A Publication of Brad Brede Ministries

Spring 2010

Volume 9, Issue 2



Throughout history men and women of God have accomplished great exploits by having faith in the ability of God. We must follow their example and not doubt God's ability to supernaturally deliver us in times of trouble and accomplish His will within our lives.

God is abundantly able to cause us to prevail regardless of our deficiencies and failures. However, we must not cast away our confidence but be fully persuaded that what God has promised He is able also to perform.

The eleventh chapter of Hebrews gives us testimonies of those who obtained a good report by faith in God's Word and His ability to fulfill it.

Abraham had received a promise from God that he would be a father of many nations. The difficulty was that he was old and incapable of producing offspring and his wife's womb was dead. But Abraham was fully persuaded that what God had promised He was able to perform (Romans 4:17-21) and they had Isaac.

Later, when Abraham is asked to sacrifice his son, he is so convinced of God's promise to him that even if Isaac was killed he believed God was "able" to raise him up (Hebrews 11:17-19). We must be that sure of the promises of God made to us.

The writer of Hebrews speaks of Noah, Moses, Gideon, Samson, David, and others. Mention is made of those "who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens, received their dead raised to life again" and others

that experienced great trials (Hebrews 11:32-40). All these obtained a good report through faith because they were fully persuaded of God's Word. They were not moved by the impossibility of what was promised.

Now it is our turn to run the race. There are many great people that have gone before us but they are not complete without us. We must lay aside every weight and the sin that entangles us and run our race with endurance and persistence (Hebrews 12:1-3).

The sin mentioned here is in the singular sense, and if kept in context, it implies that the real sin here is discouragement - growing weary and fainting. We must not doubt or drawback from the promises of God. We must never give up pursuing God's plans for our lives.

Israel, after being supernaturally delivered from Egypt, failed to enter into the promised land because of the sin of unbelief (Hebrews 3:7-19). We are encouraged in chapter four to not fall short of what has been promised to us.

We must mix faith with what we have heard. We must be so persuaded of what God has promised that it controls our actions. Why? Because He is able to perform it!

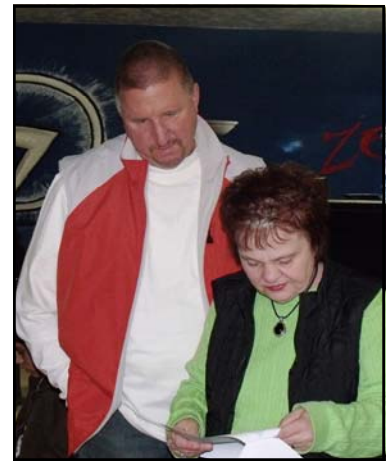
Ephesians 3:20 says that God "is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think." Second Corinthians 9:8 says "God is able to make all grace abound toward you."

God is able to make you stand against the devil, overcome every obstacle in the world, prosper in all your ways, and finish the work He has given you to do! However, you must not cast away your confidence (Hebrews 10:35-39).

The guy at the pool of Bethesda (John 5:2-9) was there a long time waiting to receive but only had excuses for why he had not been healed. Jesus approaches him and asks him if he really is determined to be well? Then Jesus told him to "get up!" When he did he was made whole.

How determined are you to see God's will accomplished in your life? Then "get up!" Be fully persuaded that what God has promised He will perform for you. Don't ever lose heart and become discouraged. God is able!

Faith does not say "I tried." Faith says, "It is not over!" As long as I am alive to fight another day, it is not over. I shall overcome because God is able!



Brad's Itinerary:

Xtreme Life Church
Great Falls, MT - May 16

Eagles' View Church
Thief River Falls, MN - May 23

Xtreme Life Church
Great Falls, MT - May 30

Xtreme Life Church
Great Falls, MT - June 2
Special Speaker - Jim Kaseman

AFCM Meeting
Helena, MT - June 3, 4
Special Speaker - Jim Kaseman

Xtreme Life Church
Great Falls, MT - June 6

AFCM Family Reunion
Willmar, MN - June 21-24

Xtreme Life Church
Great Falls, MT - June 27 & July 4

Xtreme Passion Youth Camp
Koronis Assembly Grounds
Paynesville, MN
July 12-16, 2010

Victory Chapel
Columbus, MT - July 18 AM

Xtreme Life Church
Great Falls, MT - July 18 PM

Victory Celebration Church
Roseville, MN - July 25

Xtreme Life Church
Great Falls, MT - Aug. 1, 8, 22, 29

Men's Meeting
Columbus, MT - Aug. 28



We just graduated our third class of Xtreme Life Training Center. For the past three years we have been training young adults to face the challenges of life from a biblical worldview and equipping them with the necessary skills to accurately and passionately pursue their God ordained destinies.

The vision burns ever brighter and the determination to pass on the truths that we hold dear to this next generation grows even more intense. Christian young people face hostility to their faith from one side, and indifference towards what is really important from the other side.

In March, 2005 an article in the *Washington Post* revealed that 72 percent of college professors and instructors across America are liberal.



Just 20 years ago, only 39 percent identified themselves as liberal. That is quite an increase and in sharp contrast to the general public. A Harris poll found that only 19 percent of citizens describe themselves as liberal.

The *Post* article also conveyed that 51 percent of college faculty rarely or never attend church, 84 percent are in favor of abortion, 67 percent accept homosexuality, and 65 percent want the government to guarantee full employment.

No wonder students are struggling with their commitment to Christian values; they are simply believing what they are taught in class.

A study published by Gary Tobin of the Institute for Jewish and Community Research showed that 53 percent of university and college faculty held hostile opinions of evangelical Christians while holding favorable feelings toward most other religious groups.

Too many people are just not prepared to face the vast cultural challenges that are awaiting them in our universities and workplaces. Sadly, the casualties are way too high.

Surveys on some campuses show that over 50 percent of students that indicated they were "born again" as freshman, no longer describe themselves as "born again" four years later. The Barna Group reported that only 20 percent of students who were highly churchd as teens remained spiritually active by age 29.

No matter how you look at it, these are significant numbers! Rather than attempting to

make Christianity as attractive and entertaining as possible, we should instead communicate to our young people what is actually Christianity. Many believe that the only point of faith is to be good, feel good, and to have a God to call on for help and who expects nothing in return. That is far from the truth!

We must realize that there is a battle for the hearts and minds of our young people. We will never effectively prepare them to engage a hostile and entertainment-driven culture by giving them Christian entertainment. They need and want to be challenged.



Our instruction should revolve around the fact that when it comes to life's most pressing issues, we have answers that are superior to all other beliefs. Our young people must be taught that Christianity is a comprehensive world and life view.

Everyone has a worldview - a primary way in which they perceive, understand, and interact with the world. Education is at its most basic level a worldview-shaping endeavor.

We are living in an information era. Young people encounter daily an overwhelming amount of information that is not neutral; it contains, argues, and exemplifies ideas. It often comes (especially via the internet) without context, without a clear source, and without a convincing narrative. It is essential that students are equipped to discern between competing ideas and respond with the truth.

With biblically-based convictions firmly engraved in their hearts and minds, our young people will be able to withstand the attacks on their faith, enjoy and sustain vibrant relationships with God, achieve their divine destinies, help their acquaintances understand God's truth, and be a factor in shaping society for the glory of God. That is what Xtreme Life Training Center is all about.



The testimonies from our graduates have been inspiring. Many have successfully transitioned to places of destiny, service, and blessing.

The Xtreme Passion ministry team made up of students and

graduates has also become a huge part of our unique program. Team members get the experience of traveling to special events and

Rev. Bradley and Patricia Brede hold ordination credentials with the Association of Faith Churches and Ministers. Brad Brede Ministries was established after twenty years of successful pastoral ministry.

Brad and Patty have faithfully served as AFCM Regional Directors since 1988. They travel extensively promoting the vision of AFCM, encouraging and equipping pastors, and strengthening churches.

Brad and Patty have established several youth camps beginning in 1994. They founded Xtreme Passion in 2005 and Xtreme Life Training Center in 2007 - ministries devoted to helping teenagers and young adults pursue the purposes of God.

You may become a ministry partner by joining our Par Excellence Club. Please, contact us for details.

The Pursuit of Excellence is published as a ministry of Brad Brede Ministries. Your prayers and financial support are greatly appreciated. If you have been blessed by this issue of The Pursuit of Excellence or desire prayer, we would like to hear from you.

If you desire additional information about Brad Brede Ministries or to receive a list of powerful teaching materials from Rev. Brede, please contact our ministry office.

Brad Brede Ministries
P.O. Box 393, Alexandria, MN 56308
Phone/Fax 218-943-1084
E-mail: bbmbrad@arvig.net
www.bradbredeministries.org

ministering to teenagers through worship, drama, preaching, and one-on-one ministry. It has proven invaluable to their training.

The new school term begins September 13, 2010. Pray for us to have an abundance of new students. Please encourage young people that you know to attend this life-changing training center. Our commitment to the cause is unwavering and the level of instruction is superior. Details concerning the upcoming term may be obtained by contacting our office or visiting us at xtremelifetc.com.