

FOUR STEPS TO HAVING A LITTLE *Faith*

1. THE FIRST STEP IS THAT YOU MUST LET GO.

I once read a poem by Laretta Burns that goes like this:

As children bring their broken toys,
With tears for us to mend,
I brought my broken dreams to God
Because He was my Friend.

But then, instead of leaving Him
In peace to work alone,
I hung around and tried to help
With ways that were my own.

At last I snatched them back and cried,
"How can You be so slow?"
"My child," He said, "what could I do?
You never did let go."

"Broken Dreams"
Laretta P. Burns

I like this poem because it is a message about the importance of looking beyond our present circumstances and to having hope, and to letting go. Why is this important?

Because *THE ENEMY WILL ALWAYS FIND SOMETHING WITH WHICH TO DISTRACT YOU*. Some of you may be in a marriage or a relationship that at this moment seems destined to end. Or perhaps you have received a medical report that threatens a loved one's or your own health. Or you are concerned that your child has taken a turn on the path away from you and all that you believe to be good and right. Or perhaps you find yourself in a financial crisis. Or perhaps you are concerned about your employment. Whatever it is, it is a distraction that is testing your faith.

How many times do we hold on, rather than let go, during these distractions? My father, the late Rev. Wesley Matthews, used to stand before his congregation during altar call and remind us that as we came up to kneel, we were to take our burdens to the Lord and to *LEAVE* them there...chiding us not to pick them up and take them back to the pews.

Yes, we must learn to let go and to let God. Oh, the Enemy may try to tell you that the situation can not possibly turn around. Your so-called friends may tell you that things will not improve. But you must find a way to go past what you may see and hear, and begin to let go.