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Seed
EXPERIENCE

**Activating Your FAITH to Unleash the
Authority and Power Within**

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THE INTRODUCTION

Thrust into Faith

"And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him."

(HEBREWS 11:6)

In 1994, my Aunt Jean, Alma Lanier Robinson, passed away unexpectedly from cancer. She had been diagnosed but did not want anyone to know. She kept it a secret, only confiding in a family friend who was a nurse. She went to the doctor, swearing him to confidentiality and secrecy. For months, even over a year, she would visit the doctor and return, always saying that all was well. But with each visit, her condition worsened.

Aunt Jean worked for prominent doctors in Monroe, Louisiana, where she lived. Despite her declining health, she would make the two-hour drive to Shreveport to see a doctor there, as she was acquainted with all the doctors in her hometown. Eventually, she grew too weak to make the trip, but continued to insist all was well, and she just needed some Alka Seltzer or Roloids for her stomach. But she was getting worse.

Finally, her boss, who was a close family friend, called my mother, Aunt Jean's younger sister, and shared the shocking news. Aunt Jean's boss had learned the grim truth: Aunt Jean was in stage four. The cancer by now had metastasized, one lung almost completely consumed and the other severely affected. Aunt Jean's boss informed Mom she had only two weeks to live. And exactly two weeks from the day we received this devastating news, Aunt Jean passed away on March 31.

I was devastated. Aunt Jean was one of my favorite aunts, a remarkable person in every way. She was smart, caring, compassionate, generous, wise, and funny. She was an excellent cook and spoiled her nieces and nephews. She could do with one large apple what Christ did with a couple of fishes and a few loaves. Her passing left a deep void in my heart.

After the funeral, before I returned to my work assignment in the Ark-La-Miss Delta area, I sought solace in a religious bookstore. When I walked through the door, a lady walked up to me almost immediately and asked if I was alright. I told her of my loss and the feeling of heaviness that was coming upon me. I explained I wanted to get a few books that could help me encourage myself in the Lord. She listened attentively and encouraged me as she walked me over to a rack of books. She said, "Anything on this rack will be just what you need." She gave me a strong hug and was on her way.

I selected five or six books by authors who were totally unfamiliar to me: Kenneth E. Hagin, Kenneth Copeland, Charles Capps, Florence Shovel Shinn, and John Osteen. The little booklet I selected by John Osteen was entitled, *There Is a Miracle in Your Mouth*. Since it was the shortest, I read it first. Little did I know this booklet would have a profound impact on my life. I read it three times and wept. I realized my aunt did not have to die.

Osteen introduced me to a scripture passage that to this day is one of my favorites and opened my eyes to the power of faith in God. That little booklet changed my life forever. The day I read it, I knew things in my life would be changed forever. I knew immediately Aunt Jean did not have to die. I was robbed! That day, I served notice on the devil that you won't get another one...

I can only imagine how David felt when he went to "DoorDash" some grilled cheese sandwiches to his brothers on the battlefield, messed around, and heard an uncircumcised Philistine challenge the army of our God. David did not get to prepare for that moment. The moment was thrust upon him, and he was thrust into faith activation. All of his life had been leading up to that moment when God set in motion a faith trigger, which caused everything David knew about the Good Shepherd to erupt. I believe that is precisely what God did through that little booklet by John Osteen. It thrust me into faith.

It is my humble prayer and fervent decree this book will be for you, the Reader, what John Osteen's *Miracle* booklet was for me—a faith-activator and an authority generator. Even if you are already familiar with the passage I am about to share, my prayer is that it will deepen your understanding and ignite a growing desire for faith activation in your own life, from faith to FAITH and from glory to GLORY.

There are times in our lives when God allows trials, tragedy, tension, trauma, trouble, and/or transition to thrust us into faith.

That's precisely what happened to me. I was going about my life, unaware of what I didn't know. The death of my Aunt Jean shattered my routine and turned over the tables of my complacency and comfort, pulling me out of my familiar surroundings and throwing me into an uncomfortable, unfamiliar place of self-discovery.

If this is your introduction to the scripture we're about to explore, I pray it stirs something in you, making you uncomfortable, but also fueling a greater hunger for God and a willingness to fulfill your purpose on Earth and experience adventures as you advance the Kingdom's Agenda. And if you are already familiar with this passage, I pray this book pokes you, nudges you, challenges your status quo living, pushes you to inspect your tree and lift your leaves to ensure fruit is there, or makes you question if you are existing beneath your privilege and spiritual authority.

Remember, without faith, it is impossible to please God... So, It's Activation Time!

Let's pray God's Wisdom:

God, I thank You!

Father, I magnify and exalt You for this opportunity to share how You have radically changed the trajectory of my life. You created me, drew me, bought me through the sacrifice of my Lord and Savior Jesus the Christ, and activated me for Your glory by the power of the Holy Spirit.

So, Father, I thank You!

Now, I pray for the Reader of this book. Open the eyes of their understanding. Incline their ear to You. Grant them insight, revelation, knowledge for application, and a desire for activation. May they go forth from this moment in the authority You have given them, ready to slay the giants on the battlefields of their life; serve those who need to know the way to the Messiah; and make their mark in this world for Christ and Your glory.

Grant them the grace to have A Mustard Seed Experience every day of their lives.

In the Matchless Name of Jesus, Amen.