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POPCORN FAITH

I grew up eating popcorn. My mother made it almost every evening. It was a cheap but filling treat. My friends up the street did the same thing. It has always been a favorite of mine. We did not do the hot air kind. My mother made it in a kettle on the stove. She would put in the oil and add the popcorn kernels and shake it and shake it over the burner. Soon a kernel would start to sizzle in the oil and then off they would go and there would be pop after pop after pop. The kernel would never have popped if it had not been put in the oil and put on the burner. Heat is what activated the kernel.

You may think it strange, but I think faith is a lot like popcorn. We receive faith through hearing the word of God, and we store it in our kernel (spirit). Then, when the heat is on, faith pops up and becomes what it was intended to be and brings results! The oil, of course, is the Holy Spirit that activates our faith.

It does not create a lot of faith if we live our daily lives without pressure. Faith, like popcorn, is developed by the “heat.” We can never grow in our faith without the trials and circumstances bring on the heat of life that cause us to put faith into action.

James tells us in chapter 1:3, ***“knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.”*** The only way patience comes is when the pressure is on and our faith is worked, just like popcorn in the oil. As our faith gets stronger so does patience. I remember waiting for those kernels of popcorn to pop. You cannot rush it. I knew that it would happen, and the end results melted in my mouth.

How is your faith? Are you still in the kernel stage? Are you in the oil heating up? Or are you in the popping stage using what you have learned through studying the word of God and have been trained to do and now see a bowl full of the results of your faith?

Whatever stage you are in, know that the end results will come as the heat comes. Do not resist it. Do not be like the kernels that stayed useless in the bottom of the kettle because they did not get enough heat to make them pop.