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POGO STICK FAITH

As a child a friend had a pogo stick. She could jump on that thing and bounce all over the place. I never got the hang of it because I didn't have one of my own. I did manage to get on it and do a little bouncing but nothing like my friend. I fell off it more than I stayed on it.

As I was thinking on this memory the first chapter of James came to mind. This chapter speaks about patience, temptations, wisdom, and faith. In verse 6 it says, *"But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering: For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive anything of the Lord."* This kind of faith is like bouncing around on a pogo stick falling off, and not getting anywhere.

It goes on to say in verse 8*, "a double minded man is unstable in all his ways."* This kind of faith is like I was on that pogo stick. I bounced from one place to another and fell many times. I was unstable on it. Faith that is not rooted in the word of God tends to make us unstable. One time we are up and another time we are down. We are tossed around with no sense of direction.

That same pogo stick in the hands of an *experienced* person made it work well, but in my hands it did not. I wasn't a failure, I just had not learned how to use it. With faith it is the same way. Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God. The more Word we put into our spirits, the stronger in faith we are. We can then make right decisions to go with the word and stand on it regardless of the circumstances around us because we stand firm on the promises of God.

I wonder what I would have been like on a pogo stick if I had been given one of my own. Would I have learned how to master staying on it and going with the bounce? Would I have learned to make it work for me? I may never know, but this thing I do know. I have learned about faith, and I will not let anything bounce me around when it comes to God and His promises in the Word! What about you?