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Weekly Devotional

## Back to His Word

by Robin R. Segraves

Faith! I've heard about it and read about it a million times, but recently it has taken on a new meaning and developed a more profound significance in my life. I think the longer you walk with God (hopefully growing throughout the process), the more precious He becomes and you realize in a greater way how much He really can be trusted.

The author of Hebrews said, "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1). I have observed faith in action through the lives of my parents, grandparents and in-laws. I have personally experienced the miraculous power of God in my life as a result of the faith-filled prayer of my parents when my life was on the line. So, faith can be observed in the lives of others and we can exercise it in our own lives and reap the benefits. Maybe that's why it's called "substance." It may be invisible, but it is certainly substantial.

Faith is believing God can do what He said He will do. Faith sees more clearly than our natural eyes and sees further than our temporary circumstances. I may not always understand what I'm going through and I may at times question whether God even knows what I'm going through, but His Word assures me that He does have a plan for my life.

*For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you," declares the LORD, "and will bring you back from captivity" (Jeremiah 29:11-14a).*

What a plan! But it's not just some generic plan God puts in motion and then walks away. We are constantly on His mind. Have you ever written something on the palm of your hand so you wouldn't forget it? The prophet Isaiah tells us that's exactly what God has done with those He loves. *See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands* (Isaiah 49:16).

Should there ever be a moment of doubt, we can go back to His Word. He loves us. He has a plan for us. He listens when we call and He has our names written on the palm of His hand. I've often wondered if that engraving looks like a nail scar.

**Prayer:** God, I'm so thankful for Your Word! When I look at life through my natural eyes I am frequently discouraged, but when I look through the eyes of

faith I see what an incredible love and amazing plan You have for my life. Thank You! In Jesus' name, Amen!

**Point to Ponder:** Life is truly significant only when lived according to God's plan.



Mark Segraves is associate pastor of LifeSong in Stockton, CA.

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LifeSong  
3034 Michigan Avenue  
Stockton, CA 95204  
(209) 943-6604  
[www.lifesong.net](http://www.lifesong.net)

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