

Fractured Faith

Chris Ovelton * April 21, 2013 * New Life Vineyard Church

2 My friends, consider yourselves fortunate when all kinds of trials come your way, 3 for you know that when your faith succeeds in facing such trials, the result is the ability to endure. 4 Make sure that your endurance carries you all the way without failing, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing. (Good News Translation)

James 1:2-5

Bone fractures are classified into two groups:

1. **Traumatic** Fracture – a fracture due to a trauma or injury.
 - Sometimes God speaks to us to sustain us through what he knows is coming our way. The road might get rough, so He speaks to us to remind us of His promises to us!
 - o Matthew 1-3
 - Some of the things that happen have nothing to do with us, but happen so that God can show His power to others through us!
 - o 1 Kings 17:8-24
 - Sometimes, God just wants to change our view of Him!
 - o John 11:1-44
 - God will ALWAYS do what he says he will do. He speaks to us with the same Word, the same power, he used to create the universe. Don't be afraid to remind God of the promises He's made!

2. **Pathological** Fracture - a fracture through a bone which has been made weak by some underlying disease or issue.

- A lack of **honesty** with God leads to **unbelief**. This poisons faith.
 - o Mark 9:14-27
 - o Matthew 9:27-29
 - o Luke 18:35-43

Fractures are further classified as either **closed** or **open**.

- Closed fractures are those in which the skin is intact
 - o Since these are not visible to those around us, these are the ones we tend to hide, even though it may literally be killing us!
- Open fractures are the ones that everyone sees
 - o The greatest danger from an open fracture is from infection
 - The church is our spiritual covering and, as such, must strive to cover and treat open wounds
- The fact that you have **frustrations** does not mean you don't have **Favor!**
- The fact that you are **afraid** does not mean you don't have **Faith!**