

FAITH – “His Second Door”

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Swami Vivekananda, a thorough advocate of Faith has aptly observed: “Throughout the history of mankind, if any motive power has been more potent than another in the lives of all great men and women, it is that of faith in themselves. Born of the consciousness that they are to be great; they became great.” From the above it is clear that without faith nothing can be achieved. It is faith that works wonders in our day-to-day affairs.

Recently, I happened to read a book which fascinated me because of its title and made a great impression on me as I went through its pages.

The title “God’s Second Door” was as picturesque as it was inspiring and significant. It is the story of those men and women who, sustained by a hope that laughs at misfortunes and a faith that ever generates the consciousness of God the Provider, dedicate themselves to their creative work with brave resolve and high purpose, even though denied the use of their hands. Believing as these faith-propelled people do that “Where God closes one door, He opens a second” they have in a seeming miracle, “Overcome their disability and turned their suffering to good account.”

The persons referred to above are members of the International Association of Mouth and Foot Painting Artists. Denied the use of their hands either at birth or through accident, they took the brush in mouth or foot and with that inner strength and guidance that comes from burning faith, they have created works of art that can compare with the best produced anywhere at any time by anyone with normal limbs. Theirs is the faith that may or may not move mountains, but this is the faith that can light the way of all mortals to self-sought salvation, even though those who bind the path may be heavily burdened and sorely afflicted.

In our work as Lions, we have to have un-abiding faith in our organization and its leaders, for like in everything in life, it is that faith that will help us to do the good work Lionism is doing for the needy and downtrodden in the far corners of the world. There are enough of people within and outside our organization who will try their level best for personal ends to destroy our faith and we have to stand together steadfast, complete in our confidence of those who are leading us at club, district and International levels and decry the efforts of those who are on the wrong side of the tracks. When we put our faith in someone, we really worship God and serve humanity in the best possible manner. Faith unites us with the Highest Truth and minimizes our burden of care and anxiety. It is a great boon to have faith in ourselves – for it generates love, respect and sympathy and without these qualities life is not worth living.