

The Attackers: Doctrine of the Faith-Rest Drill: Introduction: Through Spiritual Growth All Problem-Solving Devices Are Deployed on the FLOT Line of the Soul: Stage 1: Claiming Promises, Stage 2: Concentration on Doctrinal Rationales, & Stage 3: Reaching a Doctrinal Conclusion

27. This is the first system of soul defence that the believer deploys against the “flaming arrows of the evil one.”
28. As spiritual growth continues, the believer’s FLOT Line develops additional problem-solving devices by which the spiritual life is defended.
29. Faith Rest is the basic problem-solving device for the Spirit-filled believer. Its consistent use provides stability of soul so that more advanced devices can be rapidly acquired through consistent Bible study.
30. A review of the faith-rest technique is required for a better understanding of how faith is the imperative that enables the other seven problem-solving devices to function efficiently.

Doctrine of the Faith-Rest Drill

Introduction:

1. In the field of application, the faith-rest drill is the foundation for the function of the other seven problem-solving devices.
2. All application of biblical concepts requires faith on the part of the believer. Faith-rest provides the mental stability to concentrate on inculcation of Bible doctrine and correct application of it at each level of spiritual growth.
3. All problem-solving devices are deployed on the FLOT Line¹ of the soul. The Bible uses numerous military illustrations to describe the believer’s involvement in an invisible war against Lucifer and his fallen angels.
4. The believer’s weaponry is facilitated thought from the Word of God deployed in the *kardia* of his soul for code-red application to life and circumstances.
5. Without the application of faith-rest, none of the other problem-solving devices are functional. Each demands faith and faith-rest is imperative to application of the Bible doctrine.

The Three Stages of the Drill:

1. The faith-rest drill may be defined as follows:

The faith-rest drill is the believer’s basic technique for claiming the promises of God and mixing them with faith to generate tranquility of soul in the midst of the adversities or prosperities of life.²

STAGE 1:

¹ A military acronym for the forward line of troops.

² R. B. Thieme, Jr., *Freedom through Military Victory*, 4th ed. (Houston: R. B. Thieme, Jr., Bible Ministries, 2003), 100.

Claim a promise. To claim a promise, one must know a promise. The more promises memorized, the greater the inventory from which to select those appropriate for one's circumstance.

God's integrity, veracity, and immutability stand behind each of His promises. Faith in these attributes gives the believer the relaxed mental attitude to then move on to stage two of the drill.

STAGE 2:

Concentrate on a doctrinal rationale. Every promise in Scripture is supported by one or more doctrines or a constellation of doctrines.

The Holy Spirit will bring to the believer's remembrance from his doctrinal inventory those principles that apply to the circumstance. From these he can develop a rationale for reaching a conclusion. There are several rationales:

1. **The essence of God** rationale draws from those attributes that guarantee their immutability.

1 Corinthians 2:5 - Your faith would not rest on the wisdom of men, but on the power of God.

2. **The logistical-grace** rationale guarantees the divine supply of necessities, e.g., food, clothing, and shelter.

Philippians 4:19 - My God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

3. **The plan of God** rationale which is executed by doing a right thing in a right way.

1 Corinthians 14:40 - All things must be done properly and in an orderly manner.

4. **The policy of God** rationale emphasizes His grace which is unmerited favor; all that God is free to do for mankind on the basis of the saving work of Jesus Christ on the cross.

2 Thessalonians 2:16 - Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself and God our Father, who has loved us and given us eternal comfort and good hope by grace,

v. 17 - comfort and strengthen your hearts in every good work and word.

5. **The a fortiori** rationale: "New Latin: from the stronger argument: with greater reason or more convincing force—used in drawing a conclusion that is inferred to be even more certain than another."³

The Bible presents a number of a-fortiori arguments. One poses that if God did the most for us at salvation, it follows with greater reason that He will not withhold the less.

The greater effort was for a perfect God to judge His perfect Son so that we, the condemned, might have the opportunity for salvation.

It follows with stronger reason that it is of less effort for God to provide for us, His children, with blessings in both time and eternity.

Romans 8:31 - Therefore, to what conclusion are we forced? If God is for us, and He is, who is against us?

³ Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, 11th ed., s.v. "a fortiori."

v. 32 - God, Who did not even spare His own Son, but on behalf of us all He delivered Him over to judgment, how shall He not with stronger reason also with Him in grace give to us all things? (EXT)

STAGE 3:

Reach a doctrinal conclusion: Once promises are claimed and a pertinent rationale has been implemented, then the logical conclusion is to rest the case in the hands of a merciful and gracious God.

Romans 8:31 - What shall we then say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

Transferring the resolution of one's circumstances into the hands of God and leaving it there is the power available to the believer who puts his faith in the integrity of God.

The pressures of life can be cast upon Him. Fear is exchanged for courage, worry for rest, and distress for a relaxed mental attitude.

1 Peter 5:6 - Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time,

v. 7 - casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you.

Stability of soul restored allows a return to clear thinking and decision making as you depend on the faithfulness of God to manage your problem.

This system provides the clarity of thought required for the believer to move forward in his spiritual life.

It is the application of the faith-rest drill that enables the believer to develop the seven other problem-solving devices.