

## Genesis 1:20-22

*Then God said, "Let the waters abound with an abundance of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the face of the firmament of the heavens." So God created great sea creatures and every living thing that moves, with which the waters abounded, according to their kind, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. And God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth."*

When you are reading the book of Genesis, did you ever notice that God created the water before He created the fish?

*"Well, no duh Steve, He had to or the fish would have died."*

That is exactly right, but so many times we forget that God is a God of order

‡ **1 Chronicles 15:13** *For because you did not do it the first time, the LORD our God broke out against us, because we did not consult Him about the proper order.*

And being a God of order, He knew that the water had to be created before He created the fish to put in the water, just like He had to create the land before He created the animals, and plants and trees and man to live on it.

But sometimes we pray about things, yet we are praying in the wrong order. Some pray for a godly spouse, yet they are not a real godly person themselves. If you want to date or marry someone who is a Christian and follows the Lord, be that same person so you don't corrupt him or her with your ways.

Some pray for a ministry, yet they do nothing at all and just sit and wait for the Lord to drop this full time ministry into their laps. Or some will pray for a job, but also just sit there doing nothing.

You have heard the saying, "God helps those who help themselves", well that's not in the bible, and if you could help yourself you wouldn't need God. But then it doesn't mean that you just sit there being helpless. No, it means taking a step of faith, and in order to take a step, you have to get off your butt first.

If this man in this next verse just stayed sitting, he never would have known that he was healed.

‡ **Acts 14:8-10** *And in Lystra a certain man without strength in his feet was sitting, a cripple from his mother's womb, who had never walked. This man heard Paul speaking. Paul, observing him intently and seeing that he had faith to be healed, said with a loud voice, "Stand up straight on your feet!" And he leaped and walked.*

The healing was all part of God's perfect order and part of that order was faith.

† **James 2:5** *Listen, my beloved brethren: Has God not chosen the poor of this world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom which He promised to those who love Him?*

If you struggle with faith or not knowing God's order of certain things that you are praying for, be just like *the apostles* who *said to the Lord, "Increase our faith."* **Luke 17:5**

God created the water before the fish, maybe your faith needs to be created or increased before your request will be answered. Or maybe you just need to get up and start doing something.

† **Ezekiel 3:22 (NLT)** *Then the LORD took hold of me and said, "Get up and go out into the valley, and I will speak to you there."*