

CHF 25TH SEPTEMBER 2020

THEME: LIVING BY FAITH

TOPIC: THE ACT OF LIVING BY FAITH

TEXT: HEBREWS 11:1-6, ROMANS 10:17, 1 JOHN 5:4

INTRODUCTION

True Bible faith is confident obedience to God's Word in spite of circumstances and consequences. This faith operates quite simply. God speaks and we hear His Word. We trust His Word and act on it no matter what the circumstances are or what the consequences may be. The circumstances may be impossible, and the consequences frightening and unknown; but we obey God's Word just the same and believe Him to do what is right and what is best.

21. Faith sees and hears the sound of abundance of rain in the time of drought.

Elijah told Ahab, "Get something to eat and drink. I hear a heavy rain coming". 1 Kings 18:41 (CEV)

Q: How do you reconcile this text "For we live by faith, not by sight" to the above?

22. Faith speaks, believes, and acts on the Word of God, irrespective of immediate circumstance.

And Simon answering said unto him, Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net. Luke 5:5 (KJV)

Q: Just how key is the word when we talk about faith?

23. Faith recognises the presence of affliction, but chooses to magnify the God of solutions.

Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all. Psalm 34:19 (ESV)

24. Acting on God's Word is equal to faith in work clothing.

So you see, faith by itself isn't enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless. James 2:17 (NLT)

Q: Why is it important to act on God's word?

25. A doubting heart turns you against the God of faith.

But when you ask for something, you must have faith and not doubt. Anyone who doubts is like an ocean wave tossed around in a storm. If you are that kind of person, you can't make up your mind, and you surely can't be trusted. So don't expect the Lord to give you anything at all. James

1:6-8 (CEV)

Q: Is God intolerant to doubting heart?

26. Faith is the fertiliser that makes your hope become reality.

Now faith is assurance of things hoped for, a conviction of things not seen. Hebrews 11:1 (ASV)

Q: Is hope enough or independent of faith for your expectation to manifest?

27. The Bible solution to a wandering heart is the look of faith.

Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto..... Hebrews 12:1-2 (KJV)

Q: What causes wandering heart and how do we deal with it?

28. Faith believes before it sees – logic believes when it sees.

Then Jesus told him, “You believe because you have seen me. Blessed are those who believe without seeing me”. John 20:29 (NLT)

29. The removal of fear makes faith to calm the seas.

But Jesus replied, “Why are you so afraid? You surely don’t have much faith.” Then he got up and ordered the wind and the waves to calm down. And everything was calm. Matthew 8:26 (CEV)

Q: How do I remove fear from a turbulent situation or circumstance?

30. God commends faith by its size.

When Jesus heard him, He marvelled and said to those who followed Him [who adhered steadfastly to Him, conforming to His example in living and, if need be, in dying also], I tell you truly, I have not found so much faith as this with anyone, even in Israel. Matthew 8:10 (AMPC); 6:30; 9:29 (AMP)

Q Does size matter when it comes to faith and your breakthrough?

CONCLUSION

Looking at the example of Enoch walking in faith (Hebrews 11: 5–6). Our faith in God grows as we fellowship with God. We must have both the desire to please Him and the diligence to seek Him. Prayer, meditating on the Word, worship, discipline—all of these help us in our walk with God. Enoch walked with God in the wicked world, before the flood came; he was able to keep his life pure. Enoch was taken to heaven one day (“translated” = “carried across”). Be encouraged in the knowledge that God has a different plan for each one who trusts Him.