

LESSON 7

THE PRINCIPLE OF FAITH

Required Bible Reading:

Romans chapters 1-10

Colossians 3

Galatians 5

John 14, 15 & 16

All scriptures in the practical application

Faith is the foundation of the Christian life and is the principle that brings us to Jesus Christ. It is faith that will make all the promises of God a reality in your life. When you are young, you practice learning the ABC's. Faith is the ABCs of Christianity that you must learn, develop and practice each day of your life. In this lesson we will learn three things. What faith is not, what faith is and how to know when you are in faith.

1. What Faith is Not:

Faith is not trying to make God do something for you. If you are trying to make God do something for you, that means you believe He has not done it. Faith begins where the will of God is known. If you don't know God's will in a situation then you cannot believe that God will help you. The Word of God tells us that all the promises of God belong to us through Christ. It also tells us that all things that pertain unto life and godliness have been given unto us. When did this take place? When Jesus was hanging on the cross He spoke these powerful words: **IT IS FINISHED**. What was finished? The plan of redemption for the human race was carried out through the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Everything that Adam lost in the Garden of Eden was given back to us through Jesus! You can only believe for what God has already provided. Faith looks back at the cross and realizes all the promises have belonged to us since that time and lays claim to them in faith. Faith is not trying to get God to do something for you because God has already, through Christ, provided all things for you. Many people say that God is going to heal me "one day", or meet my financial need "one day", but God is not going to do it "one day". God has already met your needs through Christ about two thousand years ago. They will never be a reality in your life unless you reach out in faith and accept them as fact.

2. What is Faith?

We have found what faith is not, so what is faith? I looked in **Hebrews 11:1** for a definition of faith, but could not find one that would satisfy me. The bible tells me that faith is the substance of things hoped for but what is faith? It tells me that faith is the evidence of things you cannot see, but what is faith?

Faith simply defined is: believing that you have something that does not exist in the physical, sensory, perceptive world that you live in.

It does exist in the realm of the spirit but it has not yet manifested in the material world. Faith reaches into the spiritual realm and takes hold of the promise of God's Word and brings it into the realm of reality.

3. How to know when you are in Faith.

Hebrews 4:3 gives us the answer to this question. It tells us that those which have believed do enter into rest. You could say that those who have entered into faith do enter into rest. Rest is a type of peace. The person who believed God is the person you find in peace. They are not in worry or fear because they know that everything is okay because it has been committed to God.

4. How do I get Faith?

Romans 10:17 tells us that faith comes from hearing God's Word. Notice it did not say that faith comes by praying. Faith comes by hearing or speaking God's word. Find scriptures in the Bible that agree with what you intend to believe God for. Write the scriptures down on paper, then read them out loud to yourself over and over and over until faith comes. Faith comes by hearing God's Word. You will know when faith has arrived because all doubt will be removed from your heart and you will know that the promise belongs to you.

PRACTICAL APPLICATION

1. Find scriptures in the Bible which contain promises for you and your circumstance. Take these scriptures and make them part of your daily confession, reading them over and over, out loud to yourself.
Example: For sickness you might read **Isaiah 53:4-6;**
Mathew 8:17
1 Peter 2:24
over and over and make them your confession.
2. Find scriptures to apply to someone else's life and get them to agree with you and read these scriptures continually, out loud to yourselves, until they know that faith has come and they receive the manifestation of their need.

Print name here: _____ Date: _____

TEST 7

PRINCIPLES OF FAITH

1. **Mark 11:23** is an example of faith. What kind of faith does Jesus say he is exercising here? (**Hint:** You will find this answer in earlier verses of **Mark 11.**)

2. Faith is _____ passive _____ active

3. **Hebrews 4** says when we believe or operate in faith we are at _____ concerning our situation.

4. What is the definition of faith as found in Hebrews 11? _____

5. Faith comes by _____ God's word.

6. We receive all the promises of God by _____

True or False:

7. Our faith changes God or gets Him to do something for us. T____ F____

8. We can be operating in faith & yet not have any corresponding action (James 2)

T____ F____

9. In what way have you exercised faith in your life (besides for eternal life) and received the promise of God? _____
