

Sermon Notes: Faith

Key Texts: Romans 10:17; Luke 1:37; Proverbs 3:5–6; 2 Corinthians 5:7; Hebrews 11:1–6

Introduction

This message is centered on one subject:

Faith.

Faith is not a side issue in the Christian life. Faith is foundational. You cannot be saved without faith, cannot please God without faith, and cannot walk effectively as a Christian without faith.

1. Faith Comes From the Word of God

Romans 10:17

“So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”

Main truth:

Faith does not come from emotion, personality, or wishful thinking. Faith comes from **hearing the Word of God**.

Key idea:

The more we receive God’s Word, the more our faith can grow.

Application:

- Want stronger faith? Get into the Bible.
- Want stability in hard times? Get into the Bible.
- Want confidence in God? Get into the Bible.

You cannot separate a walk with God from the Word of God.

2. Faith Believes God Can Do the Impossible

Luke 1:37

“For with God nothing shall be impossible.”

Main truth:

Faith believes what God says, even when circumstances say otherwise.

Key idea:

What is impossible with man is not impossible with God.

Application:

- Faith does not deny difficulty.
 - Faith does not pretend problems are small.
 - Faith simply believes God is greater than the problem.
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3. Faith Trusts God Above Human Understanding

Proverbs 3:5–6

“Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.”

Main truth:

Faith requires trust.
Trust means depending on God instead of ourselves.

Key idea:

There comes a point where every believer must choose:

- Will I believe God?
- Or will I lean on my own understanding?

Application:

There are times in life when we do not understand what God is doing.
Faith says:

“Even when I do not understand, I will trust Him.”

4. Faith Walks by What God Says, Not by What We See

2 Corinthians 5:7

“For we walk by faith, not by sight.”

Main truth:

The Christian life is a faith walk.

Contrast:

Walking by sight means reacting only to what we can see, measure, and explain.

Walking by faith means trusting God beyond what our human senses can verify.

Application:

- Faith is not passive.
 - Faith is a lifestyle.
 - Faith is how the Christian is meant to live every day.
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5. Faith Is the Substance of Spiritual Reality

Hebrews 11:1

“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”

Main truth:

Faith deals with realities that are not yet visible to the natural eye.

Explanation:

Faith is:

- the **substance** of things hoped for
- the **evidence** of things not seen

This is not imaginary belief.

This is confident expectation based on the promises of God.

Biblical hope:

Biblical hope is not “maybe.”

Biblical hope is confident expectation because God keeps His Word.

6. Faith Believes God as Creator and Sovereign

Hebrews 11:3

“Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God...”

Main truth:

Faith believes God created all things by His Word.

Key idea:

God made everything from nothing.

That means our problems are never bigger than our God.

Contrast with the world:

The world trusts in explanations that exclude God.

Biblical faith begins with God as the source, sustainer, and ruler of all things.

7. Faith Produces Obedience

Hebrews 11:4

“By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice...”

Main truth:

Faith is not merely what you say you believe.
Faith is shown by how you respond to God.

Abel vs. Cain:

- Abel approached God God’s way.
- Cain approached God his own way.

Lesson:

True faith obeys God on God’s terms.

Application:

Faith without obedience is empty profession.

8. Faith Pleases God

Hebrews 11:5–6

“By faith Enoch was translated...”

“But without faith it is impossible to please him...”

Main truth:

Faith is the only way to please God.

Enoch’s testimony:

He pleased God.

How?
By faith.

Important principle:

Without faith:

- you cannot please God
 - you cannot walk rightly with God
 - you cannot experience the fullness of what God desires for your life
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9. Faith Fears God Rightly and Obeys Him

Hebrews 11:7

“By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear...”

Main truth:

Faith responds to God’s warning and acts accordingly.

Noah’s example:

- He had never seen a flood.
- He had never seen rain in that sense.
- But he believed God and obeyed.

Lesson:

Faith does not wait for visible proof before it obeys.

Important thought:

There is a connection between **faith** and **fear of God**.

- Fear sees God’s holiness, justice, and power.
- Faith sees God’s mercy, grace, and faithfulness.

Both lead us to take God seriously.

10. Biblical Faith vs. Worldly Faith

Biblical faith

Biblical faith is:

- anchored in the nature of God
- grounded in the promises of God
- dependent on the power of God

Worldly faith

Worldly faith often says:

- “Believe in yourself.”
- “Trust yourself.”
- “Pull yourself up.”
- “You can do it on your own.”

Main contrast:

Biblical faith is God-centered.

Worldly faith is self-centered.

Warning:

Worldly faith resists accountability to God.
It wants confidence without submission.

11. Saving Faith and Serving Faith

Romans 4:5

“But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.”

Main truth:

We are saved by faith, not by works.

Ephesians 2:8–9

“For by grace are ye saved through faith...”

Clear doctrine:

- Salvation is by grace

- through faith
- not by works

Important balance:

Works do not save us.
But true faith will produce a changed life.

There is:

- **saving faith** — trusting Christ for salvation
 - **serving faith** — living daily in trust and obedience
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12. Faith Is Seen in a Transformed Life

Galatians 2:20

“...the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God...”

Main truth:

Faith is not just a doctrine to affirm.
Faith is a way of life.

Key idea:

Faith affects:

- how we think
- how we decide
- how we endure
- how we obey
- how we live

Application:

If faith is real, it will show up in conduct.

13. Faith Must Be Exercised to Grow

Main truth:

Faith grows when it is fed and exercised.

How faith grows:

- hearing God's Word
- obeying God's Word
- walking with God consistently
- remaining faithful in church
- participating in Bible study
- responding to trials biblically

Warning:

Neglected faith weakens.

Just as an unused muscle weakens, unexercised faith declines.

14. Definitions and Descriptions of Faith

From the sermon's ideas, faith may be described this way:

Faith is:

- trusting in what is not yet visible
- acting in accordance with what God has said
- expectation based on the assurance of God's promises
- confidence that God is telling the truth
- walking in the unknown because God is known
- behaving as if God's Word is true because it is
- reliance upon God rather than self

A simple statement:

Faith is acting like God is telling the truth.

15. Faith Is Essential for the Entire Christian Life

Faith is essential for:

- salvation
- pleasing God
- obedience
- endurance
- daily Christian living
- confidence in the future

Final truth:

Faith moves us forward with joyful expectation that God keeps His promises.

Without faith:

- life becomes spiritually weak
 - believers become unstable
 - disappointment takes over
 - people begin to drift toward worldly thinking
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Conclusion

Faith is not optional in the Christian life.

It is essential.

- Faith saves us.
- Faith strengthens us.
- Faith steadies us.
- Faith pleases God.
- Faith carries us through the unknown.

The call of this message is simple:

If you are not saved:

Trust Jesus Christ today.

If you are saved:

Commit yourself to walk by faith in every area of life.

Not halfway.
Not occasionally.
But fully.

Trust in the Lord with all thine heart.

Invitation / Response Emphasis

This message calls for surrender.

Questions to ask:

- Am I truly trusting Christ for salvation?
- Am I walking by faith or by sight?
- Am I leaning on God or on my own understanding?
- Are there areas I need to surrender today?
- Am I living like God is telling the truth?