

“Rooted and Built Up” Discipleship Program

Lesson Four- What is Faith?

Scripture- Galatians 3:22-26

Memory verse- Hebrews 11:1, *“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”*

INTRODUCTION- Ever since the day that man sinned in the Garden of Eden, every generation has inherited the curse of sin. We have no choice in how we are born, to whom we are born, or in what we are born. Committing iniquity is as natural as breathing for mankind. Although we are born in sin, as infants, we also come equipped with *“the measure of faith”* (Romans 12:3). But, this “faith” means more than just the character possessed by an individual who can be relied upon (fidelity). The “faith” referred to in the Bible carries the meaning of being totally convinced of



the truth of a thing. Faith is the confidence we place in things we cannot see, but expect will come to pass just as God’s Word declares. It has been said that *“faith is the soul’s taster. Faith is the mouth of the soul, which not only tasteth but cheweth the promises and manifestations of God to his people, and so makes meat of them.”* Every human being exercises faith on a daily basis, maybe without even realizing it. Faith is as a huge piece to life’s puzzle. It is intended to fit perfectly into only One Person. Placing faith in anything or anyone else will make a truly awkward fit. In this lesson, we will investigate closely this important question—What is Faith?

I. THE “ _____ ” OF FAITH

Validity- *“The strength or force required to convince; the quality of a thing which renders it supportable; conclusive; authentic; logical.”*

A. Faith is a real “ _____ ” (Hebrews 11:1a).
(Romans 10:17)

B. Faith is an honest “ _____ ” (Hebrews 11:1b).
(I Corinthians 2:9-16)

NOTE- Consider the following illustration: As children, we remember how we felt when our birthday came around. We were anxiously anticipating it to arrive, for the hope we had in receiving cake and ice cream, as well as gifts and cards. Birthdays and other special holidays each year combine assurance with anticipation, for what when we know what to expect, we desired its arrival all the more. Faith is the confidence based on what God has told us in the Bible to come to pass just as He has said. When we believe God will perform all His promises, even when we cannot see how, we trust Him anyway (John 20:24-31).

II. THE “_____” OF FAITH

Value- “The properties of a thing which render it useful; the power or capacity of something to procure or produce good.”

- A. **Faith is valuable only as it is _____.**
(I Peter 1:18-23; I Timothy 4:10; II Timothy 1:12)
- B. **Faith is valuable only as it is _____.**
(John 12:24; Luke 17:5-6)
- C. **Faith is valuable only as it is _____.**
(Luke 18:8; Hebrews 11:6)

III. THE “_____” OF FAITH

- A. **Faith brings victory over the _____ (Galatians 3:23-25).**
(Romans 3:20-23, 5:20, 7:7; I Timothy 1:9; Acts 13:39; Romans 5:1)
- B. **Faith bears victory of new _____ (Galatians 3:22, 26).**
(Galatians 3:13; II Corinthians 5:17; I John 5:4)

IV. CONCLUSION

Faith is choosing to trust God and take Him at His Word having not seen, yet believing that one day we will see it (Hebrews 11:13). Faith rests not in the feelings of man, but in the fact of God’s Word. By faith, we anticipate with joy the fulfilment of every promise of God (I Peter 1:8).

Student tip- Unless there is within us that which is above us, we shall soon yield to that which is about us.