



The Faith Journey

October 2nd, 2016

TEXT: John 4:43-54

FIVE FOOTPRINTS OF FAITH

According to your faith be it done to you - Matthew 9:29 ESV

Without faith it is impossible to please Him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him - Hebrews 11:6 ESV

1. CRISIS FAITH

Unless you see signs and miracles you will not BELIEVE - John 4:48 ESV

Because of the miraculous signs Jesus did in Jerusalem at the Passover celebration, many began to trust in him. But Jesus didn't trust them, because he knew all about people. No one needed to tell him about human nature, for he knew what was in each person's heart. - John 2:23-25 NLT

THE SKINNY ON MIRACLES

- **THE POWER OF MIRACLES - Acts 2:22; John 20:30-31, 2 Corinthians 12:12; Hebrews 2:4**
- **THE WEAKNESS OF MIRACLES - Mark 13:22; 2 Thes 2:9-11; Revelation 13:13; Matthew 12:39; 16:4**

Jesus told him [Thomas], "You believe because you have seen me. Blessed are those who believe without seeing me." - John 20:29 NLT

2. CONTEMPLATIVE FAITH

And many more BELIEVED because of his word...The man BELIEVED THE WORD that Jesus spoke to him and went on his way - John 4:41, 50 ESV

You have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God - 1 Peter 1:23 ESV

Faith comes from hearing and hearing by the word of Christ - Romans 10:17 ESV

Why are you downcast, O my soul? And why are you in turmoil within me? "Hope in God!" for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God. therefore I remember you... - Psalm 42:5-6 ESV

3. CONFIDENT FAITH

*The man BELIEVED the word that Jesus spoke to him and WENT ON HIS WAY.
- John 4:50 ESV*

*Just as the body is dead without breath, so also faith is dead without good works.
- James 2:26 NLT*

Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act. He will bring forth your righteousness as the light, and your justice as the noonday. Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him. - Psalm 37:5-7 ESV

4. CONVERTING FAITH

...And he himself BELIEVED - John 4:53 ESV

But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God. They are reborn—not with a physical birth resulting from human passion or plan, but a birth that comes from God. - John 1:12-13 NLT

5. CONTAGIOUS FAITH

...And he himself BELIEVED and ALL HIS HOUSEHOLD - John 4:53 ESV

The Lord's message rang out from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia—your faith in God has become known everywhere. - 1 Thessalonians 1:8 NIV

The fundamental fact of existence is that this trust in God, this faith, is the firm foundation under everything that makes life worth living. It's our handle on what we can't see. ... By faith, we see the world called into existence by God's word, what we see created by what we don't see. - Hebrews 11:1, 3 MSG

Next Steps

- Memorize **Hebrews 11:6**.
- Develop a stronger faith-bond with Jesus Christ.
- Get in a Growth Group this fall season.
- Give my life to Jesus as Savior and Lord, for the first time.

Walk The Talk

A Growth Group Guide

Read John 4:43-54

1. What was one of the most serious childhood illnesses you can remember?
2. Since Jesus has now become known, what motivates his own people to seek him out? What is good about this? What is bad about this?
3. When you read back through the story of the Samaritans in John 5:39-42, what differences do you see in them and the Galileans? How are they both the same?
4. What motivates the royal official to travel so far? How would you feel if you had the conversation that he had with Jesus at first? What do you think about his response?
5. Where do you think you are right now on the Faith Journey with Jesus (see the five points on the outline above)? Explain.
6. When have you taken God “at his word” even though the situation was close to impossible, and he came through for you? How did that change the way you believed him for the next time?