

# Intimate Faith in God's Faithfulness

When life gets overwhelming and circumstances seem impossible, where do you turn? Many people try to figure things out on their own, relying on feelings, opinions, or human wisdom. But there's a better way - building your life on the solid foundation of God's Word and developing an intimate relationship with Him through faith.

## What Does It Mean That God Is Faithful?

God's faithfulness isn't about endorsing our opinions, feelings, or ideas. Instead, God is faithful when we take Him at His Word. When you stand on His Word and do His Word, He is faithful to back you up. This is the key difference - God doesn't back up our opinions, but He empowers His own promises.

Think about it this way: if you're feeling sad, you don't just stay in that emotional state. You take those feelings to God's Word and discover what He says about sadness. Scripture tells us He gives "the oil of joy for mourning and the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness." When you see this truth and believe it, God is faithful to pour that oil of joy on you.

## How Do I Apply God's Word to My Problems?

The process is simple but requires faith. Instead of just crying out "God, take away this pain!" you need to find out what His Word says about your situation. For physical pain or sickness, Scripture reveals that Jesus "took our infirmities, our sicknesses, he carried our pain" when He went to the cross.

He didn't take our pain in vain - He took it so we don't have to carry it. But you can't just stay focused on feelings and problems. You must find the answer in God's Word, draw near to Him, know the truth, receive that truth, and believe it. When you do, He immediately backs it up.

## What Is the Role of Faith in Receiving God's Help?

"Faith comes by hearing and hearing the word of God" (Romans 10:17). It's through faith that we receive God's help in our lives. The more we're in faith, the more we'll see God move on our behalf and be active in our lives.

Faith isn't just knowing God's Word with your head - you must believe it and embrace it with your whole heart. This involves intimacy with God, a closeness and relationship with Him. That's where worship comes in. When you worship God, you're expressing the kind of love and devotion that draws you into His presence.

## **Why Do Some People Limit God's Power?**

Scripture tells us that the children of Israel "limited the Holy One of Israel" (Psalm 78:41). How can an unlimited God be limited? While God has unlimited power and potential to do anything, He doesn't have the legal right to do anything in everybody's life without their permission.

God needs us to give Him access through our free will. The only way we give Him access is by giving Him our hearts - hearts that believe in Him and trust in Him. That's what faith really is: an intimate heart connection with God.

## **How Can I Develop Deeper Intimacy with God?**

Faith is intimacy. It's a heart connection, not just a mental agreement. When you open your heart and invite God to live in you, surrendering all that you are to Him, that's a whole different level of relationship.

Don't just come to God always asking for things. Express affection to Him. Worship Him. Tell Him how much you love Him. Make sure your heart is sincerely in the relationship, not just going through religious motions.

The Bible encourages us to "speak to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord" (Ephesians 5:19). This isn't just about church music - it's about maintaining a heart connection with God throughout your day.

## **What Happens When We Fight the Fight of Faith?**

Sometimes you have to "fight the good fight of faith." When contrary circumstances, words, and thoughts come against God's promises, you don't just give up. You fight back with the Word of God.

Like the woman with the issue of blood who pressed through the crowd to touch Jesus' garment, you must have that same determination. She knew that if she could just touch Him, she would be healed. Her faith caused God's power to flow into her body, and she was instantly healed.

When problems come your way, don't just sit passively. Load up with Scripture - "Bible bullets" as it were. Get so familiar with God's Word that you can quickly respond to any attack with His truth.

## **How Do I Maintain This Heart Connection with God?**

Guard your heart from drifting into just going through religious motions. Spend time alone with God. Get on your knees and worship Him. Walk and talk with Him. Don't always be in a rush - draw near to Him, and He will draw near to you.

Remember, God has a tender heart. He yearns for intimate relationship with you. When you honor Him with genuine love and faith, He writes it in His book of remembrance. Your conversations about Him and with Him mean that much to Him.

## Life Application

This week, challenge yourself to move beyond just knowing about God to truly knowing Him intimately. Instead of approaching Him only with your problems and requests, spend time simply worshiping Him and expressing your love. When challenges arise, immediately go to His Word to find His promises rather than staying stuck in your feelings or circumstances.

### Ask yourself these questions:

- Am I building my life on God's Word or on my own opinions and feelings?
- Do I have a heart connection with God, or am I just going through religious motions?
- When problems arise, do I fight with faith or give up in doubt?
- Am I growing in intimacy with God through worship and time in His presence?

Remember, God is not a God of confusion or uncertainty. He is a rock you can build your life on. When you take Him at His Word and develop that intimate heart connection through faith, you'll discover He is absolutely faithful to back up His promises in your life.

## Quotes

1. "God is not obligated to endorse, enforce, empower, or bless your opinions, feelings, or ideas. But He is faithful—when you take Him at His Word, He will perform His Word."
2. "When you stand on His Word and do His Word, He is faithful to back you up."
3. "Take what you feel and what you're thinking to the Scriptures, find out what God says about your feelings and thoughts, believe it—and He will back it."
4. "Get into faith and believe God to move in your life."
5. "It's by faith that we receive God's help in our lives."
6. "Don't live in your feelings or stay focused on the problem. Draw near to Him, find the truth, and receive it."
7. "Faith comes by hearing—and hearing by the Word of God."
8. "The more we walk in faith, the more we'll see God move on our behalf—more active, more evident in our lives."

9. “There’s an answer to every problem—but most people go through life guessing.”
10. “Why try to figure everything out on your own when you have the Answer Book?”
11. “It’s not enough to just know it—you must believe it and embrace it with your whole heart. Not just in your head, but in your heart.”
12. “Faith requires intimacy—a real closeness and relationship with God.”
13. “Fight the good fight of faith. Don’t sit back and say, ‘I don’t understand why it didn’t happen.’”
14. “When words and thoughts come against the Word of God—fight. Stand for what’s right. Stand for what you believe.”
15. “God moves on your behalf when you move in faith toward Him. You move toward Him—He moves toward you.”
16. “Faith is your lightning rod—lift it toward God.”
17. “Faith is a spiritual law.”
18. “They limited the Holy One of Israel because they forgot His power—the day He redeemed them from the enemy.”
19. “Faith is intimacy—it’s a heart connection with God.”
20. “Don’t only come to God asking for things. Stop exalting everything else above Him—He desires your wholehearted devotion.”

## **Verses**

1. Romans 10:17
2. 1 John 1:9
3. Psalm 78:41
4. Ephesians 5:18
5. Exodus 19
6. Romans 3:27

7. Romans 4:16

8. Romans 4:17

9. Mark 5

10. John 4

### **Summary**

When life becomes overwhelming, many people rely on their feelings or human wisdom instead of building their foundation on God's Word. God's faithfulness isn't about endorsing our opinions, but about backing up His promises when we take Him at His Word. Faith comes through hearing God's Word and developing an intimate heart connection with Him, not just mental agreement. Instead of limiting God's power through doubt, we must give Him access through our hearts that believe and trust in Him. This involves moving beyond just asking for things to genuinely worshiping Him and expressing our love. When challenges arise, we fight the good fight of faith by responding with Scripture rather than staying stuck in our circumstances.