

# THE LAWS OF FAITH

Different: Part One

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Pastor Brian

*“**BY FAITH** Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going.” (Hebrews 11:8, NIV)*

## **What Faith is NOT**

- Not **POSITIVE** thinking.
- Not mental **ASSENT**.
- Not **RELIGIOUS MAGIC**.

*“Have faith in God,” Jesus answered. “Truly I tell you, if anyone says to this mountain, ‘Go, throw yourself into the sea,’ and does not doubt in their heart but believes that what they say will happen, it will be done for them.” (Mark 11:22–23, NIV)*

## **What is Biblical Faith?**

*“Now **faith is the substance** of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” (Hebrews 11:1, NKJV)*

*Faith is a willful decision of trust, resulting in an uncomfortable act of obedience, enabling God to accomplish His will through me by delivering His grace to me.*

*“What can we do to perform the works of God?” they asked. Jesus replied, “**This is the work of God—that you BELIEVE** in the One He has sent.” (John 6:28–29, HCSB)*

*“God’s approval is revealed in this Good News. This approval **begins and ends with faith** as Scripture says, “The person who has God’s approval will live by faith.” ” (Romans 1:17, GW)*

**FAITH is the key that cures us.**

*“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—” (Ephesians 2:8, NIV)*

## **UNBELIEF is the curse that condemns us.**

*“...for whatever is not from faith is sin.” (Romans 14:23, NKJV)*

### **Why Unbelief is so Deadly**

1) It was unbelief that caused **THE FALL**.

2) It was unbelief that **DESTROYED** an entire generation in the desert.

*“So we see that they were not able to enter, because of their unbelief.” (Hebrews 3:19, NIV)*

3) It's unbelief that sends a person to **HELL**.

*“...Anyone who does not believe in him has already been judged for not believing in God's one and only Son.” (John 3:18, NLT)*

4) It's unbelief that **LIMITS GOD'S WORK** in your life.

*“What do you mean, ‘If I can’?” Jesus asked. “Anything is possible if a person believes.”” (Mark 9:23, NLT)*

*“And so he did only a few miracles there because of their unbelief.” (Matthew 13:58, NLT)*

## **THE LAWS OF FAITH**

1. The law of **RELATIONSHIP**.

*“To all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—” (John 1:12, NIV)*

*“So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith,” (Galatians 3:26, NIV)*

### **ACTION: 1<sup>st</sup> Base**

2. The law of **FELLOWSHIP**.

*“**Enoch walked faithfully** with God; then he was no more, because God took him away.” (Genesis 5:24, NIV)*

*“...**Noah** was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he **walked faithfully** with God.” (Genesis 6:9, NIV)*

*“Then [Jacob] blessed Joseph and said, “May the God before whom my fathers **Abraham and Isaac walked faithfully**, the God who has been my shepherd all my life to this day,” (Genesis 48:15, NIV)*

### **ACTION: 2<sup>nd</sup> Base**

#### **3. The law of AUTHORSHIP.**

*“Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the **WORD** about Christ.” (Romans 10:17, NIV)*

#### **4. The law of LORDSHIP.**

*“It was by faith that **Abraham obeyed** when God called him to leave home and go to another land that God would give him as his inheritance. He went without knowing where he was going.” (Hebrews 11:8, NLT)*

#### **5. The law of HARDSHIP.**

*“Some time later, **God tested Abraham’s faith**. “Abraham!” God called. “Yes,” he replied. “Here I am.”” (Genesis 22:1, NLT)*

- **DELAYS.**

*“But these things I plan won’t happen right away. Slowly, steadily, surely, the time approaches when the vision will be fulfilled. If it seems slow, do not despair, for these things will surely come to pass. Just be patient! They will not be overdue a single day!” (Habakkuk 2:3, The Living Bible)*

- **DIFFICULTIES.**

*“Anyone who wants to live all out for Christ is in for a lot of trouble; there’s no getting around it.” (2 Timothy 3:12, The Message)*

- **DEAD-ENDS.**

*“When everything was hopeless, Abraham believed anyway, deciding to live not on the basis of what he saw he couldn’t do but on what God said he would do...” (Romans 4:18, The Message)*

*“For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow.” (James 1:3, NLT)*

#### **6. The law of OWNERSHIP.**

*“...God **PROMISED** [Abraham] that he and his descendants after him would **POSSESS** the land, even though at that time Abraham had no child.” (Acts 7:5, NIV)*

*“Abraham believed God, and God counted him as righteous because of his faith.” (Galatians 3:6, NLT)*

*“So those who rely on faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.” (Galatians 3:9, NIV)*

**ACTION STEP**

*Take a Daring Step to Become Different!*