

[God Gives Proof of His Power & Might](#) + But We Are Required To Trust Some!
That “Trusting-Some” is Called Faith, and It Is Easy To Have Faith When We Really Know His Power & Might.

[I. Build Faith](#)

Jude 20 (NLT) ²⁰ But you, dear friends, must build each other up in your most holy faith, pray in the power of the Holy Spirit,

- *You have the responsibility to evaluate the condition of your faith and do something about it!*
- *You have the responsibility also to build others up in their faith!*

[II. Determine To Have a Legacy of Faith](#)

2 Timothy 1:3–7 (NLT) *Encouragement to Be Faithful*

3 Timothy, I thank God for you—the God I serve with a clear conscience, just as my ancestors did. Night and day I constantly remember you in my prayers. ⁴ I long to see you again, for I remember your tears as we parted.

And I will be filled with joy when we are together again.

⁵ I remember your genuine faith, for you share the faith that first filled your grandmother Lois and your mother, Eunice. And I know that same faith continues strong in you. ⁶ This is why I remind you to fan into flames the spiritual gift God gave you when I laid my hands on you. ⁷ For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline.

[III. Be An Example of Faith](#)

Hebrews 10:39–11:4 (NLT) ³⁹ But we are not like those who turn away from God to their own destruction. We are the faithful ones, whose souls will be saved.

¹ Faith shows the reality of what we hope for; it is the evidence of things we cannot see. ² Through their faith, the people in days of old earned a good reputation.

³ By faith we understand that the entire universe was formed at God’s command, that what we now see did not come from anything that can be seen.

⁴ It was by faith that Abel brought a more acceptable offering to God than Cain did. Abel’s offering gave evidence that he was a righteous man, and God showed his approval of his gifts. Although Abel is long dead, he still speaks to us by his example of faith.

Continues: Noah, Abraham, Issac, Jacob, Moses, The People of Israel (at specific times of faith action), Gideon, Samson, David, Samuel

Hebrews 12:1–2 (NLT) Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us. ² We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who

initiates and perfects our faith. Because of the joy awaiting him, he endured the cross, disregarding its shame. Now he is seated in the place of honor beside God's throne.

- We have many examples of Faith who have gone before us!
- We are now called to be the people who walk by faith, and leave the examples of faith, just as the examples did before us!

IV. Live a Life By Faith, (Not By Always Seeing)

2 Corinthians 5:7 (NIV) ⁷ For we live by faith, not by sight.

- This is a faith walk and always has been – we must be ok with that!

V. No Person Actually Has A Legitimate Excuse For Not Having Faith – Look at Creation

Romans 1:19-20 NLT [Would be good for you to read Romans 1:16–24 (NLT)]

¹⁹ They know the truth about God because he has made it obvious to them. ²⁰ For ever since the world was created, people have seen the earth and sky. Through everything God made, they can clearly see his invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature. So they have no excuse for not knowing God.

VI. Jesus Showed There Is Enough Proof To Have Faith Even Before Him!

Luke 16:27–31 (NLT) ²⁷ “Then the rich man said, ‘Please, Father Abraham, at least send him to my father’s home. ²⁸ For I have five brothers, and I want him to warn them so they don’t end up in this place of torment.’ ²⁹ “But Abraham said, ‘Moses and the prophets have warned them. Your brothers can read what they wrote.’ ³⁰ “The rich man replied, ‘No, Father Abraham! But if someone is sent to them from the dead, then they will repent of their sins and turn to God.’ ³¹ “But Abraham said, ‘If they won’t listen to Moses and the prophets, they won’t be persuaded even if someone rises from the dead.’ ”

VII. How To Build Your Faith

First, Hear The Truth About Jesus The Good News, And Be Born Again!

The "Roman Road" summarizes the message of salvation in the following steps.

- **The Universal Need (Romans 3:23):** "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." This highlights that all people have fallen short of God's standard.
- **The Penalty (Romans 6:23):** Explains that sin leads to death, while God provides a free gift of life.
- **God's Provision (Romans 5:8):** Jesus paid the penalty for humanity's sins out of love.
- **The Response (Romans 10:9, 10:13):** Salvation is received by faith and acknowledging Jesus as Lord.
- **The Result (Romans 5:1):** Highlights that justification by faith brings peace with God.

Colossians 2:6–7 (NLT) ⁶ And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow him. ⁷ Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. **Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught,** and you will overflow with thankfulness.

Seven Starting Points

1. You Must Surrender To The “Trust-Without-Seeing” Test!

2 Corinthians 5:7 (NIV) ⁷ For we live by faith, not by sight

Genesis 15:6 (NLT) ⁶ And Abram believed the LORD, and the LORD counted him as righteous because of his faith.

2. Listen To Truth - Faith Comes By Hearing!

Romans 10:17 (NLT) ¹⁷ So faith comes from hearing, that is, hearing the Good News about Christ.

- At the surface, this scripture means faith in Jesus and salvation must come only after people hear the good news. People aren't going to be saved if they don't hear about Jesus.
- But a deeper meaning, is our overall faith in God is increased by hearing all the things that God has done and is doing. Listen to testimony, truth, the Word, teaching, history, etc. about what God has done and is doing.

3. Receive The Word

- Be a person, who receives and is hungry for God's Word (the Bible)

Matthew 13:18 (read 18-23) (NLT) ¹⁸ "Now listen to the explanation of the parable about the farmer planting seeds:

- Are you one who receives and protects and applies the Word when you receive it?
- See the power of prophesy and fulfilment in the Word!

4. Build a Relationship With God

- God wants us connected to Him in a spiritual, but real relationship of closeness, communion, and twoway communication. If that relationship is strong, so will our faith be strong. You should move into that relationship with expectation and faith.

Revelation 3:20 (NLT) ²⁰ "Look! I stand at the door and knock. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal together as friends.

John 15:5 (NLT) ⁵ "Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing.

Hebrews 11:6 (NLT) ⁶ And it is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him.

5. Connect In Christian Relationships

- Connect with Christians – they should be people who walk in faith and their faith rubs off on us
- Mature Christians minister to you from their experience and gifts.
- New Christians or Christians in need give you the opportunity to share from your giftings and strengths
- Connect with Christians who have the gift of faith

6. Eyes on Jesus

Hebrews 12:2a(NLT) ² We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith.

- Peter took his eyes off Jesus. He instead looked at the storm and rationalized!

Matthew 14:27–31 (NLT) ²⁷ But Jesus spoke to them at once. “Don’t be afraid,” he said. “Take courage. I am here!” ²⁸ Then Peter called to him, “Lord, if it’s really you, tell me to come to you, walking on the water.” ²⁹ “Yes, come,” Jesus said. So Peter went over the side of the boat and walked on the water toward Jesus. ³⁰ But when he saw the strong wind and the waves, he was terrified and began to sink. “Save me, Lord!” he shouted. ³¹ Jesus immediately reached out and grabbed him. “You have so little faith,” Jesus said. “Why did you doubt me?”

7. Welcome The Holy Spirit in Power

I believe the single greatest thing we can do to increase our faith, is welcome the Holy Spirit and be open to His work!

1 Corinthians 2:4–5 (NLT) ⁴ And my message and my preaching were very plain. Rather than using clever and persuasive speeches, I relied only on the power of the Holy Spirit. ⁵ I did this so you would trust not in human wisdom but in the power of God.

Continually Exercising Faith Actually Makes Faith Stronger

8. Endure Trials

James 1:2–4 (NLT) *Faith and Endurance* ² Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. ³ For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. ⁴ So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.

9. Listen To Transformed & Changed People (Testimony)

- Listen To What God Is Doing and Has Done (Listen To Constant Stream of Testimony)

10. Connect Your Now With What He Has Done

- Remember what God has done for you and others, then connect that to your new challenge.

11. Act On Your Faith

1 Corinthians 2:4–5 (NLT) ⁴ And my message and my preaching were very plain. Rather than using clever and persuasive speeches, I relied only on the power of the Holy Spirit. ⁵ I did this so you would trust not in human wisdom but in the power of God.

- When we step out in faith, we often see God at work, then our faith is stronger.

Guard Your Faith

12. Recognize & Rebuke the Voice of The Enemy

- When Jesus was in the wilderness, Satan came to tempt Jesus. Satan is a liar, and is set on destroying everything that is good. He wants to lie and destroy our faith, and He is good at it. People have accepted and proclaim his lies.

John 8:44 (NLT) ⁴⁴ For you are the children of your father the devil, and you love to do the evil things he does. He was a murderer from the beginning. He has always hated the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, it is consistent with his character; for he is a liar and the father of lies.

Hebrews 3:12–13 (NLT) ¹² Be careful then, dear brothers and sisters. Make sure that your own hearts are not evil and unbelieving, turning you away from the living God. ¹³ You must warn each other every day, while it is still “today,” so that none of you will be deceived by sin and hardened against God. **Ephesians 6:11–12 (NLT)** ¹¹ Put on all of God’s armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. ¹² For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.

Bonus: The Gift of Faith

1 Corinthians 12:4–7; 9a (NLT) ⁴ There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit is the source of them all. ⁵ There are different kinds of service, but we serve the same Lord. ⁶ God works in different ways, but it is the same God who does the work in all of us. ⁷ A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other. ...⁹ The same Spirit gives **great faith** to another...

- *Ask for it in prayer*
- *Get around someone with it*

Prayer

- Please show me what a strong faith looks like.
- Give me guidance on implementation.
- Give me strength to be disciplined in any area you so direct.
- Make me a person of strong faith – because people of faith walk in more blessing and peace, and accomplish your good will.