

WHEN GOD DOESN'T DO WHAT I WANT

CHRISTIAN-ISH: WEARING THE LABEL OF CHRISTIAN WITHOUT FULLY SURRENDERING TO JESUS

I. True Faith is RELATIONAL... Not TRANSACTIONAL. True Faith is about LOVING GOD for who He is; not solely for what HE DOES FOR us.

Transactional Faith says:

"I'm committed to the agreement because of what I expect to receive."

Relational Faith says:

*"I'm committed to God because of who He is—
even when I don't receive what I expected."*

⁴*"Listen, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.⁵ And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength."* Deuteronomy 6:4-5 (NLT)

²⁹*"Jesus replied, 'The most important commandment is this: 'Listen, O Israel! The Lord our God is the one and only Lord.³⁰ And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.³¹ The second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself. 'No other commandment is greater than these.'"* Mark 12:29-31 (NLT)

⁴⁰ *"The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments."* Matthew 22:40 (NLT)
[Jesus] ¹⁵ *"If you love Me, obey My commandments."* John 14:15 (NLT)

II. Your obedience doesn't mean you get **PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT** from God.

[Jesus] ⁷*"When a servant comes in from plowing or taking care of sheep, does his master say, 'Come in and eat with me?'⁸ No, he says, 'Prepare my meal, put on your apron, and serve me while I eat. Then you can eat later.'⁹ And does the master thank the servant for doing what he was told to do? Of course not.¹⁰ In the same way, **when you obey Me you should say, 'We are unworthy servants who have simply done our duty.'**"* Luke 17:7-10 (NLT)

III. Transactional Faith is Christian-ish; True Faith is...

1) True Faith is measured in your **FEET** (actions) not your **FEELINGS** (emotions).

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

2) True Faith is concerned with **PLEASING** God.

²*"Through their faith, the people in days of old **earned a good reputation.**"* Hebrews 11:2 (NLT)

*"...Abel's offering gave evidence that he was a righteous man, and **God showed His approval** of his gifts..."* Hebrews 11:4b (NLT)

*"For before he was taken up, he [Enoch] was known as a person **who pleased God.**"* Hebrews 11:5b (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.**"* Hebrews 11:6b (NLT)

3) True Faith doesn't reduce the reward solely to **TEMPORAL** (earthly) things.

¹³*"All these people died still believing what God had promised them. They did not receive what was promised..."* Hebrews 11:13 (NLT)

¹⁶*"But they were looking for a better place, a heavenly homeland. That is why God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them."* Hebrews 11:16 (NLT)

³⁹*"All these people earned a good reputation because of their faith, **yet none of them received all that God had promised.**"* Hebrews 11:39 (NLT)

⁴⁰*"For **God had something better in mind** for us..."* Hebrews 11:40 (NLT)