

**MOVE FORWARD
REMEMBER HIS BENEFITS**

**Faith
Discover Church
January 23, 2022
Mark Phillips**

Dear Father, Please forgive me for (feeling/situation) unbind (him/her) from my judging and hampering your work and help me to love (him/her) even if (he/she) never changes. Please set (him/her) free from my judgment – even if I am right. In Jesus name, Amen

Move Forward with **Faith**

What is Faith?

“What is faith? It is the confident assurance that something we want is going to happen. It is the certainty that what we hope for is waiting for us, even though we cannot see it up ahead. ² Men of God in days of old were famous for their faith. ³ By faith—by believing God—we know that the world and the stars—in fact, all things—were made at God’s command; and that they were all made from things that can’t be seen.” Hebrews 11:1-3

Biblical Faith is...

- Confident **Assurance**
- Certainty of **Hope**
- **Even though**

Biblical Examples of Faith

- Faith requires passing a **test** - **Abraham**

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

“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. By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country” Hebrews 11:8-9

“And by faith even Sarah, who was past childbearing age, was enabled to bear children because she considered him faithful who had made the promise” Hebrews 11:11

“Don’t lay a hand on the boy!” the angel said. “Do not hurt him in any way, for now I know that you truly fear God. You have not withheld from me even your son, your only son.” Genesis 22:12

“By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice. He who had embraced the promises was about to sacrifice his one and only son, even though God had said to him, “It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned.” Abraham reasoned that God could even raise the dead, and so in a manner of speaking he did receive Isaac back from death.” Hebrews 11:17-19

- Faith helps you overcome your **fear** and **failure** - **Moses**

“By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the king’s anger; he persevered because he saw him who is invisible. ²⁸ By faith he kept the Passover and the application of blood, so that the destroyer of the firstborn would not touch the firstborn of Israel. ²⁹ By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as on dry land; but when the Egyptians tried to do so, they were drowned.” Hebrews 11:27-29

➤ Faith develops in the middle of **persecution** - The **Others**

“There were others who were tortured, refusing to be released so that they might gain an even better resurrection. ³⁶ Some faced jeers and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷ They were put to death by stoning; they were sawed in two; they were killed by the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute, persecuted and mistreated— ³⁸ the world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts and mountains, living in caves and in holes in the ground. ³⁹ These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised, ⁴⁰ since God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect.” Hebrews 11:35-40

Five Ways to Know if Your Faith is Real

1. Real Faith is not just something you **say**

“What good is it, dear brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but don’t show it by your actions? Can that kind of faith save anyone?” James 2:14

2. Real Faith is not just something you **feel**

“Suppose you see a brother or sister who has no food or clothing, ¹⁶ and you say, “Good-bye and have a good day; stay warm and eat well”—but then you don’t give that person any food or clothing. What good does that do? ¹⁷ So you see, faith by itself isn’t enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless.” James 2:15-17

3. Real Faith is not just something you **think**

“Now someone may argue, “Some people have faith; others have good deeds.” But I say, “How can you show me your faith if you don’t have good deeds? I will show you my faith by my good deeds.” James 2:18

“This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!” 2 Corinthians 5:17

4. Real Faith is not just something you **believe**

“You say you have faith, for you believe that there is one God. Good for you! Even the demons believe this, and they tremble in terror.” James 2:19

5. Real Faith is something you **do**

“How foolish! Can’t you see that faith without good deeds is useless? ²¹ Don’t you remember that our ancestor Abraham was shown to be right with God by his actions when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? ²² You see, his faith and his actions worked together. His actions made his faith complete.” James 2:20-22

“Examine yourselves to see if your faith is genuine. Test yourselves. Surely you know that Jesus Christ is among you; if not, you have failed the test of genuine faith.” 2 Corinthians 13:5

Our Faith is not **determined** by what we do, it is **demonstrated** by what we do!

Through Faith...

- **Participate** in God's Divine Nature

"His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. ⁴ Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature, having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires. ⁵ For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; ⁶ and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; ⁷ and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love. ⁸ For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ." 2 Peter 1:3-8

- Enjoy the **impossible!**

"If you can'?" said Jesus. "Everything is possible for one who believes." Mark 9:23

"Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God." Mark 10:27

- Become **Fully Persuaded** about God's Power

"Being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised." Romans 4:21

"God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. ⁹ Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it. ¹⁰ For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago." Ephesians 2:8-10

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Move Forward with _____

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- Confident _____
- Certainty of _____
- _____

Biblical Examples of Faith

- Faith requires passing a _____ - _____
- Faith helps you overcome your _____ and _____ - _____
- Faith develops in the middle of _____ - The _____

Five Ways to Know if Your Faith is Real

6. Real Faith is not just something you _____
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10. Real Faith is something you _____

Our Faith is not _____ by what we do, it is _____ by what we do!

Through Faith...

- _____ in God's Divine Nature
- Enjoy the _____!
- Become _____ about God's Power

Scripture: *Hebrews 11; James 1:3; Genesis 22:12; James 2; 2 Corinthians 5:17; 2 Corinthians 13:5; 2 Peter 1:3-8; Mark 9:23; Mark 10:27; Romans 4:21; Ephesians 2:8-10*