

THE SHORTCOMINGS OF FAITH

Session 1: The Important Role of Faith

Pastor Dale Campbell

I. THE SIGNIFICANCE OF FAITH

A. Scriptures Highlighting the Importance and Value of Our Faith

1. Pleasing God REQUIRES faith.

Hebrews 11:6

KJV “But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him*: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.”

CEV “But without faith no one can please God. We must believe that God is real and rewards everyone who searches for him.”

Literal Standard Version “...and apart from faith it is impossible to please [Him], for it is required of him who is coming to God to believe that He exists and [that] He becomes a rewarder to those seeking Him.”

2. We are saved by faith.

Ephesians 2:8-9

NKJV “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.”

3. Matthew 17:20

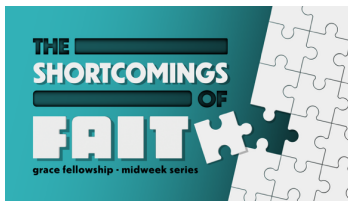
NKJV “And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, **ye shall say** unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you”

- Mustard seed is small but **powerful**.
- If you have faith you shall **say**!

4. We are justified by faith.

Romans 5:1

NKJV “Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ...”



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5. We live by faith.

2 Corinthians 5:7

KJV “We walk (live) by faith and not by sight.”

6. We overcome by faith.

1 John 5:4

NKJV “For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.”

TPT “You see, every child of God overcomes the world, for our faith is the victorious power that triumphs over the world.”

7. Jesus attributed miracles to personal faith.

- a. The blind men:

Matthew 9:29

KJV “Then touched he their eyes, saying, According to your faith be it unto you.”

AMP “Then He touched their eyes, saying, ‘According to your faith [your trust and confidence in My power and My ability to heal] it will be done to you.’”

- b. The Centurion’s servant:

Matthew 8:13

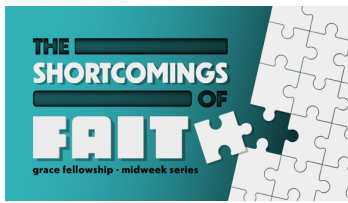
NKJV “Then Jesus said to the centurion, ‘Go your way; **and as you have believed**, so let it be done for you.’ And his servant was healed that same hour.”

- As you have believed it will be done.
- Aramaic: “Go, it will be done for you just as you have believed.”

- c. The woman with the issue of blood:

Mark 5:34

KJV “And he said unto her, Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace, and be whole of thy plague.”



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CSB “‘Daughter’, he said to her, ‘your faith has saved you. Go in peace and be healed from your affliction.’”

8. Faith and prayer.

a. **Mark 11:24**

NKJV “Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive *them*, and you will have *them*”

TPT “This is the reason I urge you to boldly believe for whatever you ask for in prayer—be convinced that you have received it and it will be yours.”

b. **Matthew 21:22**

NKJV “And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.”

CEV “If you have faith when you pray, you will be given whatever you ask for.”

Weymouth “...and everything, whatever it be, that you ask for in your prayers, if you have faith, you shall obtain.”

c. **James 1:6-7**

NKJV “But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord;”

PASTOR’S NOTE: *The reason we place such strong emphasis on faith is because the Bible itself places great importance on it.*

II. THE LIFESTYLE OF FAITH

A. **Romans 1:17**

NKJV “For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith – As it is written, the Just shall live by Faith”

1. The “Just” refers to **us**, those who have been declared righteous on the basis of the acceptance of and confession of Jesus Christ as Lord.



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2. Faith is a lifestyle.
 - a. We should be educated on it and developed in it so we can live every day of our life by faith.
 - b. **Once converted**, believers no longer live the lifestyle of the world. We live differently, according to the principles of the Kingdom.
 - c. Faith is to be the way of life for believers.
 - d. Faith is to be the language and conversation of believers.
3. Too many people do not understand faith or how faith works.

III. ACCURATELY UNDERSTANDING HOW FAITH WORKS

A. Common Misunderstandings

1. Faith is positive thinking.
 - a. Faith is denying the report.
 - b. Faith is speaking positive against the report.
2. Faith is passive: just wait and do nothing.
 - a. Just believing for God to do everything while we do nothing.
 - b. "I am just trusting God—no matter what happens."
3. Faith is a feeling.
 - a. Faith isn't connected to feelings in the realm of the emotions.
 - b. Faith is a spiritual force.

B. Real Faith is Directly Connected to the Word of God

1. Faith is embracing God's promises and taking them personally in faith to yourself.
 - a. **Romans 10:17**
KJV "So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."
 - b. Faith begins where the will of God is known.
 - c. The will of God is revealed in His Word. His Word is His Will.
 - d. **1 John 5:14**
NKJV "Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him."