

HOW IS YOUR FAITH?

Faith can be defined in the following ways:

- A strong belief in a supernatural power or powers that control human destiny
- Complete confidence in a person or plan etc
- An institution to express belief in a divine power
- Loyalty or allegiance to a cause or a person

From our definitions, faith is having a strong belief in someone or some thing. For example, you might have faith in your spouse that he or she will always be there for you. You might put your faith in a doctor that specializes in the problem you are having. As Christians, we put our faith in God.

When it comes to faith, what is the difference between the first two examples I gave and the last one?

How does the Bible define faith (Heb. 11:1-3)? _____

What do we learn from the following two verses?

Heb. 11:6 _____

Rom. 10:17 _____

A faith that is pleasing to God comes from His Word. If it is not from His Word then it will not be a faith that is pleasing to Him. We could call this a misguided faith. Let's take a look at a few verses that talk about a misguided faith.

Ps. 49:6-7 (Lk. 18:18-25) _____

Acts 8:9-13 _____

1 Kings 13:12-25 _____

Isa. 57:13 (1 Kings 18:20-40) _____

Other examples? _____

We must put our faith and trust in the wisdom and guidance of our Lord (Prov. 3:5-8; Ps. 37:7; 146:3-5; Jer. 10:23; Rom. 12:16).

Let's examine some more aspects about your faith. **Do you have little faith?**

1. Do you find yourself overly concerned about the basic necessities of life such as: food, clothing, and shelter? What does Jesus teach us about this in Mt. 6:25-34?

2. Are you full of fear though the Lord is near? What do we learn about this from Mk. 4:35-41 and Mt. 14: 22-33?

There are many verses that teach us not to be fearful because the Lord is near. Here are few of them: (Ps. 23:4; Ex. 14:13; Lk. 12:32; 2 Tim. 1:7).

3. Similar to our last question, do you find yourself afraid to take a stand for God? What do we learn from Numbers 13:30 – 14:9?

Do you have a working faith?

What does James teach us about our faith (Jam. 2:14-26)? _____

According to Jesus what should not be our motivation for a working faith (Mt. 23:5)?

What should be our motivation for a working faith (Gal. 5:6; 1 Cor. 13:1-3)?

What do we learn about our works from Jesus (Mt. 6:1-8)? _____

Does this mean that our faith is never to be seen (Mt. 5:14-16; Rom. 1:8)? _____

While our motivation for a working faith is not to be seen of men for bragging rights, when we do good works for the Lord, many times those works will be seen. Hebrews 11 is full of examples of men and women whose motivation was to be pleasing to God and not man. So, there is nothing wrong with our good works being seen as long we have the right motivation. We have an example of two people having the wrong motivation and the dire consequences of it Acts 5:1-11.

What did their motivation cause them do, and what was the consequence? _____

Are you walking by faith?

How do you walk by faith (2 Cor. 5:7; Rom. 10:17; 2 Tim 2:15)? _____

What do we learn about Enoch in Gen. 5:24; Heb. 11:5? _____

We can only be pleasing to God when we walk by faith (Heb. 11:6) True or False

Is your faith strong?

What do we learn about having a strong faith from Abraham (Heb. 11:8; Rom. 4:20)? _____

What do you think shows a strong faith? _____

What do the following verses teach us that a strong faith will do:

2 Pet. 2:7-9 _____

Gen 39:7-10 _____

Heb. 11:36-37 _____

Jam. 1:2-4 _____

1 Jn. 5:4 _____

Is your faith growing?

Faith by itself is dead. Therefore, we must continually add to it and grow in it (2 Pet. 3:18; 1:5-7).

What problem do we find in the following verses:

Heb. 4:2 _____

Heb. 5:12-14 _____

What does Peter tell every new Christian to do (1 Pet. 2:1-3)? _____