

**Faith Church International**  
**Presents: Faith School, Disc 2**  
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**Introduction**

**Hebrews 11:1**: “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” Faith is one of the Big Bible Words, one of the words found all through the Bible. The Big Bible Words, the words that God says a lot about, are subjects that we need to know a lot about, like LOVE, FAITH, and RIGHTEOUSNESS. These are words that are all through the Bible, words that we need to be familiar with and understand completely. **Romans 1:17** says: “...The just shall live by faith...” You’re not living until you’re living by Faith. You have the answer in you because you were born again and you have Faith in your spirit. Faith is a part of the new creation. It came when you were born again just like Love is a part of the new creation.

**Romans 5:1-5: Verse 1**, “Therefore being Justified by Faith we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: **Verse 2**, By Whom also we have access by Faith into this Grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the Glory of God. **Verse 3**, And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also; knowing that tribulation works patience; **Verse 4**, And patience, experience; and experience, hope. **Verse 5**, And hope makes not ashamed; because the Love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit which is given unto us.”

You have the Divine Life of God in you.

If your Faith isn’t increasing it will be decreasing. **II Thessalonians 1:3-4: Verse 3**, “We are bound to thank God always for you, Brethren, as it is meet, because that your Faith grows exceedingly, and the charity (love) of every one of you all toward each other abounds; **Verse 4**, So that we ourselves glory in you in the Churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that you endure:”

Paul bragged on the Thessalonians because they had PATIENCE and FAITH in all of their persecution and tribulation and they ENDURED it all through FAITH and PATIENCE. They were able to endure the worst that the devil could throw at them. They were one of the model Churches of the New Testament. Anybody can do what’s easy. Brag on those that do the hard stuff. Endure hardness. People are going to be going through difficult times everywhere and they need to know that somebody else made it. They need to know somebody else endured. They had the same problems but they came through and so you can too.

God is no respecter of persons but he is a respecter of Faith. Faith pleases God. Without Faith it’s impossible to please Him. Faith simply means, “I believe God meant what he said.”

\*Bible **Verses** are quoted from the Expositor’s Study Bible, KJV.

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**1. God Likes to be around People that Believe in Him**

**I. Numbers 23:19:** *"God is not a man, that He should lie; neither the son of man that He should repent."*

- God is Faithful
- God cannot lie
- God cannot fail

**II. Hebrews 10:23:** *"Let us hold fast the profession of our Faith without wavering; (for He is faithful Who promised;)"*

- Hold fast means it's fastened. You're not coming apart from the Word of God. You are stuck to it like Super Glue.
- The word confession means, "To speak the same as." I'm going to speak the same as God. Hold fast to saying the same thing as God said. Don't change your confession.
- God cannot break his Word. His Word is forever settled in Heaven. Live by the Word.

**2. Love the Word of God**

-If you're going to be a person of Faith you have to love the Bible. You can't be a person of Faith if you don't love the Bible because the Bible is the source of Faith. *"Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God..."* If you don't love the Word, you'll never be a person of exceedingly growing Faith.

**I. II Thessalonians 2:9-12: Verse 9,** *"Even him (the Antichrist), whose coming is after the working of satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, Verse 10, And with deceivableness of unrighteousness in them who perish; because they received not the love of the Truth, that they might be saved. Verse 11, And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie; Verse 12, That they all might be damned who believed not the Truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness."*

- You have to love the Truth regardless of its source.
- Sometimes God will test you to see if you're a Lover of Truth and send a person that you don't want to hear anything from to tell you something. And you mess around and reject the Truth because you didn't like the person that brought it. You have to get beyond that. Look and listen for the Word.

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- If you're going to be a person of Faith you have to love the Truth. You have to love the Word. You have to develop an ear to hear. You can't go the "Bible Smorgasbord". You have to learn to love it all. Even when it tells you things you don't want to hear or do.

### **3. What Happens When You Don't Love the Truth?**

***I. II Thessalonians 2:11-12: Verse 11, "And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie; Verse 12, That they all might be damned who believed not the Truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness."***

- Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth..." If you love Truth then you love Jesus.
- People that don't love the Truth will be deluded.
- There are people that hear the Truth but don't love it. They are so deluded that nothing that is right makes sense to them.
- If you don't love the Truth, you'll end up having pleasure in unrighteousness.

You need to put the Word first place in your life. If you're going to be a person of Faith, the kind of Faith that's going to get a miracle when you need it, that's going to get the job done on YOUR behalf, in YOUR life, and get you through the hard times and the difficult times, you're going to have to be a Lover of the Truth. Make the development of your Faith a high priority on your list. Love the Truth. Get that in your spirit.

### **4. Faith Always Runs to God**

***I. Romans 10:17: "So then Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God."***

(2 types of hearing)

- Revelation is when you finally "see" what its saying.
- A lot of people have heard but still don't have a clue about what it really means to their life. They have the *first* hearing, a mental assent. There is no Faith there. As soon as a problem comes they run to the arm of the flesh instead of God.
- You find that there are people who only have mental assent, and haven't taken the time loving the Truth, meditating in it day and night, and praying **Psalms 119:18**, "*Open Thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of Your law.*"

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- Don't be content just having a head knowledge, a mental assent, knowing all the scriptures in the Bible intellectually, mentally. There's no Faith. Intellectual Christians, as soon as tragedy comes, run to the arm of the flesh. Faith runs to God.

**II. Jeremiah 17:5:** *"Thus saith the LORD; Cursed be the man who trusts in man, and makes flesh his arm and whose heart departs from the LORD."*

**III. Psalms 20:7:** *"Some trust in chariots, and some in horses; but we will remember the Name of the LORD our God."*

- Faith holds fast and clings to God.
- Faith knows God keeps his word.
- Faith knows God will not fail.

**5. Prepare For The Storm**

**I. Luke 6:46-49: Verse 46,** *"And why do you call Me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say? Verse 47, Whosoever comes to Me, and hears My sayings, and does them, I will show you to whom he is like: Verse 48, He is like a man which built an house, and digged deep, and laid the foundation on a rock: and when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently upon that house, and could not shake it: for it was founded upon a rock. Verse 49, But he who hears, and does not, is like a man that without a foundation built an house upon the earth; against which the stream did beat vehemently, and immediately it fell; and the ruin of that house was great."*

- The cause of the ruin was not the storm. It was the lack of preparation for the storm. The same storm beat on both houses. One was ready for it and one wasn't. I wish Christians were ready when the storm came. You have to give up something to get something.

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- You need to know the bible. A lot of folks are not going to be ready when hell shows up and rings their bell and then they're going to get mad at God, mad at the Church, mad at the Preacher, when they should have been diligent in the Word of God, loving the Truth, studying to show themselves approved, and in the House of God Sunday morning and Wednesday night.
- If you don't have a library of CD's, a library of books on various subjects, developing your theology, then you're not building your house.

-I have one passion in my ministry and that is to preach people to a place of Faith in their life. That's what I'm after. I have to preach and teach you to a place of Faith in your life. Or else what are we doing here? If I can't school you in the Faith, then I can't do anything for you. That's what Jesus did.

**6. Jesus Taught People to a Place of Faith**

*I. **Mark 6:1-6: Verse 1**, "And He went out from thence (from Capernaum), and came into His own country (Nazareth); and His Disciples follow Him. **Verse 2**, and when the Sabbath Day was come, He began to teach in the Synagouge: and many hearing Him were astonished, saying, From whence hath this man these things? And what wisdom is this which is given unto Him, that even such mighty works are wrought b His hands? **Verse 3**, Is not this the carpenter, the Son of Mary, the brother of James, and Joseph, and of Juda, and Simon? And are not His sisters with us? And they were offended at Him. **Verse 4**, But Jesus said unto them, A Prophet is not without honour but in his own country, and among his own kin, and in his own house. **Verse 5**, And He could do no mighty work save that He laid His Hands upon a few sick folk, and healed them. **Verse 6**, And He marveled because of their unbelief. And He went round about the villages, teaching."*

- If Faith was dynamite, then there wasn't enough Faith in Nazareth for them to blow their own noses!
- Jesus wanted to raise the level of Faith in their lives so they could receive.
- Jesus went around *teaching* the Word of God to build Faith.

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**7. Don't Be Weak in the Lord**

**I. Ephesians 6:10-18: Verse 10**, “Finally, my Brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might. **Verse 11**, Put on the whole Armour of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. **Verse 12**, For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. **Verse 13**, Wherefore take unto you the whole Armour of god, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. **Verse 14**, Stand therefore, having your loins gird about with Truth, and having on the Breastplate of Righteousness; **Verse 15**, And your feet shod with the preparation of the Gospel of Peace; **Verse 16**, Above all, taking the Shield of Faith, wherewith you shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. **Verse 17**, And take the Helmet of Salvation, and the Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God: **Verse 18**, Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all Saints;”

- Weak in the Lord means defeated. Weak in the Lord means you can't stand in the evil day.
- There's going to be a time when your Faith is going to be tried. Happy are those when the devil shows up and you don't go all to pieces.
- If you skate through life and never have to fight for your life, you're a fortunate person. But the chances are you're going to have to fight for it one of these days. You better be ready.

**II. Matthew 16:13-18: Verse 13**, “When Jesus came into the coast of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His Disciples, saying Whom do men say that I the Son of Man am? **Verse 14**, And they said, Some say that you are John the Baptist: some, Elijah; and others, Jeremiah, or one of the Prophets. **Verse 15**, He said unto them, But whom say you that I am? **Verse 16**, And Simon Peter answered and said, You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God. **Verse 17**, And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jona: for flesh and blood have not revealed it unto you, but my Father which is in Heaven. **Verse 18**, And I say unto you, That you are Peter and upon this rock I will build My Church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”

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- The gates of hell will not prevail because you've been equipped.
- You become a rock because you've got a revelation. If you don't have any revelation, you're not a rock. You're just a little bit of sand.
- Rocks are not that easy to move. The gates of hell will not prevail against the Church.

The quest of your our life should be to develop ourselves to a place of the highest level of Faith. If I ask you the question, "What do you believe about healing?" You ought to be able to reel off, systematically, what you believe about healing. And then I will know that you will be safe in the evil day. School people in the Faith and miracles happen.

If I could say anything to anybody about this season that we are in, in our country right now, I'd say, "Develop your Faith! What you need more than anything else is more Faith right now! Grow your Faith! Get in the Word of God and feed your Faith!" Like Dr. Sumrall said, "Feed your Faith until you starve your doubts to death!" Doubt and Faith cannot coexist in the same place.

**8. How Can You Develop a Hearing Ear?**

- *"Faith cometh by hearing..."* Hear it with your natural ears first.
- Meditate the Word of God day and night. You must *listen* to *hear*. Cultivate that hearing ear by *listening* to the Word of God.
- Listen to tapes (CD's). Listen to your own voice. Speak it out loud.

**I. Psalms 25:1-2: Verse 1**, *"Unto Thee, O LORD, do I lift up my soul. Verse 2, O My God, I trust in You: let Me not be ashamed, let not My enemies triumph over Me."*

- Know that your enemies will not triumph over you.
- Memorize the Word of God
- We all have to live it.

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We've got to have Faith. If there is anything that you can do for yourself to better your situation, it's grow your Faith and increase your Faith. You can't do that without being a Lover of the Truth. Develop that hearing ear by listening to the Word of God and hearing YOU speak it.

**Joel 2:25**: *"And I will restore to you the years that the locust has eaten, the cankerworm, and the caterpillar, and the palmerworm,, My great army which I sent among you."*