

“Faith Basics”

Pastor Eddie Turner
Wednesday, May 9, 2018

Heb. 11:1(NIV)- Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.

1). Why is it so important to understand faith?

- Without faith we cannot please God:
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Heb. 11:6(NIV)- And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

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“anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards...”

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- We are to walk by faith not by sight

2 Cor. 5:7(NKJV)- For we walk by faith, not by sight.

2 Cor. 5:7(NLT)- For we live by believing and not by seeing

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- We are commanded to live by faith

Gal. 3:11(NIV)- Clearly no one who relies on the law is justified before God, because “the righteous will live by faith.”

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- We are instructed to fight the fight of faith

1 Tim. 6:12(NIV)- Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

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Heb. 11:30-39(NLT)~ It was by faith that the people of Israel marched around Jericho for seven days, and the walls came crashing down.

<sup>31</sup> It was by faith that Rahab the prostitute was not destroyed with the people in her city who refused to obey God. For she had given a friendly welcome to the spies.

<sup>32</sup> How much more do I need to say? It would take too long to recount the stories of the faith of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel, and all the prophets. <sup>33</sup> By faith these people overthrew kingdoms, ruled with justice, and received what God had promised them. They shut the mouths of lions, <sup>34</sup> quenched the flames of fire, and escaped death by the edge of the sword. Their weakness was turned to strength. They became strong in battle and put whole armies to flight. <sup>35</sup> Women received their loved ones back again from death.

But others were tortured, refusing to turn from God in order to be set free. They placed their hope in a better life after the resurrection.

<sup>36</sup> Some were jeered at, and their backs were cut open with whips. Others were chained in prisons. <sup>37</sup> Some died by stoning, some were sawed in half, and others were killed with the sword. Some went about wearing skins of sheep and goats, destitute and oppressed and mistreated. <sup>38</sup> They were too good for this world, wandering over deserts and mountains, hiding in caves and holes in the ground.

<sup>39</sup> All these people earned a good reputation because of their faith, yet none of them received all that God had promised.

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• Faith is the #1 defensive spiritual weapon of Christians

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Eph. 6:11-17(NKJV)~ Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. <sup>12</sup> For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. <sup>13</sup> Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

<sup>14</sup> Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, <sup>15</sup> and having shod your feet with

the preparation of the gospel of peace; <sup>16</sup> above all, taking the shield of faith with which, you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. <sup>17</sup> And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;

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2). What is faith?

Faith is a persuasion, a firm persuasion, faith is a conviction based upon what you have heard-faith is simply what you believe.

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Matt. 9:27-29(NLT)- After Jesus left the girl's home, two blind men followed along behind him, shouting, "Son of David, have mercy on us!"

<sup>28</sup> They went right into the house where he was staying, and Jesus asked them, "Do you believe I can make you see?" "Yes, Lord," they told him, "we do."

<sup>29</sup> Then he touched their eyes and said, "Because of your faith, it will happen."

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James 2:17-20(NLT)- ⁷ So you see, faith by itself isn't enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless.

¹⁸ 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."

¹⁹ 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.

²⁰ How foolish! Can't you see that faith without good deeds is useless?

3). How do we get faith?

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Rom. 10:13-17(NKJV)- ¹³ For "whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

¹⁴ How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? ¹⁵ And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written:

“How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace,
Who bring glad tidings of good things!”

¹⁶ But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed our report?” ¹⁷ So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

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Mark 5:21-34(NLT)- Jesus got into the boat again and went back to the other side of the lake, where a large crowd gathered around him on the shore. <sup>22</sup> **Then a leader of the local synagogue, whose name was Jairus, arrived. When he saw Jesus, he fell at his feet,** <sup>23</sup> **pleading fervently with him. “My little daughter is dying,” he said. “Please come and lay your hands on her; heal her so she can live.”**

<sup>24</sup> Jesus went with him, and all the people followed, crowding around him. <sup>25</sup> A woman in the crowd had suffered for twelve years with constant bleeding. <sup>26</sup> She had suffered a great deal from many doctors, and over the years she had spent everything she had to pay them, but she had gotten no better. In fact, she had gotten worse. <sup>27</sup> She had heard about Jesus, so she came up behind him through the crowd and touched his robe. <sup>28</sup> For she thought to herself, “If I can just touch his robe, I will be healed.” <sup>29</sup> Immediately the bleeding stopped, and she could feel in her body that she had been healed of her terrible condition.

<sup>30</sup> Jesus realized at once that healing power had gone out from him, so he turned around in the crowd and asked, “Who touched my robe?”

<sup>31</sup> His disciples said to him, “Look at this crowd pressing around you. How can you ask, ‘Who touched me?’”

<sup>32</sup> But he kept on looking around to see who had done it. <sup>33</sup> Then the frightened woman, trembling at the realization of what had happened to her, came and fell to her knees in front of him and told him what she had done. <sup>34</sup> And he said to her, “Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace. Your suffering is over.”

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4). Faith is not automatic equipment
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Eph. 6:10-16(NLT)~ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. <sup>11</sup> Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. <sup>12</sup> For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. <sup>13</sup> Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. <sup>14</sup> Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, <sup>15</sup> and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup> In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.