

Dynamic Kingdom Discipleship

Faith from a Practical Perspective

Hebrews 11:1 (TPT)

Now **faith brings our hopes into reality** ... and **becomes the foundation needed to acquire the things we long for**. ... It is all the evidence required to prove what is still unseen.

Intro.

Here are three questions I want to pose and hopefully answer concerning Faith

1. **What is Faith from a practical perspective?**

No more theological mumbo jumbo so you can clearly understand it

2. **How do I make my faith work for me in my daily life?**

See it really working on a regular basis – No more hit or miss

3. **How do I increase in my level of Faith?**

So, I can do greater things for the Kingdom than I am now

The key to this entire series will boil down to this one question

What do you truly believe in your heart?

Your true faith resides in your heart and not in your head ... Information is stored in your head ... where revelation of that information which you deem to be “your truth” resides in your heart

Proverbs 4:23 (TPT)

So above all, guard the affections of your heart, *[It includes our thoughts, our will, our discernment, and our affections.]* for they affect all that you are. ... Pay attention to the welfare of your innermost being, for from there flows the wellspring of life.

What is in your heart will come out your mouth

See, what you truly believe in your heart ... Will eventually come out your mouth as words (frequencies / vibrations) ... And your words engage the spirit realm in order to make what you

say come to pass in your life ... God created man in His own image as “speaking spirits” ... God spoke creation into existence ... Thus, the reason behind Adam naming all the animals ... HE was teaching His creation (Adam) how to function as a “speaking spirit”

Proverbs 18:21 (TPT)

Your words are so powerful that they will kill or give life, and the talkative person will reap the consequences.

There are two types of “frequencies / vibrations” in this natural realm ... We can call one of them “heavenly; Godly; creative” frequencies ... The other one we can call “demonic; devilish; destructive” frequencies ... Because we were physically / spiritually born in trespasses and in sin, we are prone (and have been worldly trained) to speak in the language of the demonic which creates destruction in and around our life ... Once we become born again, we must diligently work at speaking in our new heavenly frequency which creates life in and around our life.

Foundational Truths concerning Faith

Faith Defined

Greek word “pistis” which means belief, firm conviction, assurance ... It also implies a firm conviction that leads to an accompanying behavior

James 2:14-26 (TLB)

14 Dear brothers, what’s the use of saying that you have faith and are Christians if you aren’t proving it by helping others? ... Will that kind of faith save anyone? ... 15 If you have a friend who is in need of food and clothing, ... 16 and you say to him, “Well, good-bye and God bless you; stay warm and eat hearty,” and then don’t give him clothes or food, what good does that do? ... 17 So you see, it isn’t enough just to have faith. ... You must also do good to prove that you have it. ... Faith that doesn’t show itself by good works is no faith at all—it is dead and useless. ... 18 But someone may well argue, “You say the way to God is by faith alone, plus

nothing; well, I say that good works are important too, ... for without good works you can't prove whether you have faith or not; ... but anyone can see that I have faith by the way I act." ... 19 Are there still some among you who hold that "only believing" is enough? ... Believing in one God? ... Well, remember that the demons believe this too—so strongly that they tremble in terror! ... 20 Fool! ... When will you ever learn that "believing" is useless without doing what God wants you to? ... Faith that does not result in good deeds is not real faith. ... 21 Don't you remember that even our father Abraham was declared good because of what he did when he was willing to obey God, even if it meant offering his son Isaac to die on the altar? ... 22 You see, he was trusting God so much that he was willing to do whatever God told him to; his faith was made complete by what he did—by his actions, his good deeds. ... 23 And so it happened just as the Scriptures say, that Abraham trusted God, and the Lord declared him good in God's sight, and he was even called "the friend of God." ... 24 So you see, a man is saved by what he does, as well as by what he believes. ... 25 Rahab, the prostitute, is another example of this. ... She was saved because of what she did when she hid those messengers and sent them safely away by a different road. ... 26 Just as the body is dead when there is no spirit in it, so faith is dead if it is not the kind that results in good deeds.

Everyone has been given a Measure of Faith

Romans 12:3 (NKJV)

For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly... as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.

Why? ... Without Faith you can't be Born Again

Ephesians 2:8 (NKJV)

For by grace ... you have been saved ... through faith, ... and that not of yourselves; ... it is the gift of God,

By Grace

“God’s ability working in you to do what you can’t do in your own ability” ... So, grace is the empowerment of the Holy Spirit within you that enables “God stuff” to happen in your life ... Things like sanctification; transformation; manifestation of giftings so that you may function as a spirit being here on earth

1 Corinthians 15:10 (TPT)

But **God’s amazing grace has made me who I am!** ... And **His grace to me was not fruitless.** ... In fact, **I worked harder than all the rest,** ... yet not in my own strength but God’s, ... for **His empowering grace** is poured out upon me.

Through Faith

Faith is your belief that grants you access or connects you into His empowerment of grace in your life

Romans 5:2 (TPT)

Our faith guarantees us permanent access into this marvelous kindness [grace] that has given us a perfect relationship with God. What incredible joy bursts forth within us as we keep on celebrating our hope of experiencing God’s glory!

Without Faith you can’t please God

Hebrews 11:6 (NLT)

And it is impossible to please God without faith. ... Anyone who wants to come to Him must believe that God exists ... and that He rewards those who sincerely seek Him.

Two Types of Faith

Little Faith

Matthew 8:26 The Passion Translation (TPT)

26 But Jesus reprimanded them. “Why are you gripped with fear? *[Why are you so cowardly, you of such little faith?] Jesus is implying that if they had faith, they could have commanded the storm to be stilled and it would happen.*] ... Where is your faith?” ... Then he stood up and rebuked the storm and said, “Be still!” And instantly it became perfectly calm.

Great Faith

Matthew 15:28 New King James Version (NKJV)

28 Then Jesus answered and said to her, “O woman, great is your faith! Let it be to you as you desire.” And her daughter was healed from that very hour.

Faith is really an Issue of the Mind

It is a belief system

Mark 11:22 (TPT)

22 Jesus replied, “Let the faith of God be in you! [“God-like faith” or “godly faith.”]

Renew your belief system

Doctrinal belief

Denominational belief

Kingdom belief

Lord, increase our Faith

Luke 7 New Living Translation (NLT)

The Faith of a Roman Officer

7 When Jesus had finished saying all this to the people, he returned to Capernaum. 2 At that time the highly valued slave of a Roman officer[a] was sick and near death. 3 When the officer heard about Jesus, he sent some respected Jewish elders to ask him to come and heal his slave. 4 So they earnestly begged Jesus to help the man. “If anyone deserves your help, he does,” they said, 5 “for he loves the Jewish people and even built a synagogue for us.”

6 So Jesus went with them. But just before they arrived at the house, the officer sent some friends to say, “Lord, don’t trouble yourself by coming to my home, for I am not worthy of such an honor. 7 I am not even worthy to come and meet you. Just say the word from where you are, and my servant will be healed. 8 I know this because I am under the authority of my superior officers, and I have authority over my soldiers. I only need to say, ‘Go,’ and they go, or ‘Come,’ and they come. And if I say to my slaves, ‘Do this,’ they do it.”

9 When Jesus heard this, he was amazed. Turning to the crowd that was following him, he said, “I tell you, I haven’t seen faith like this in all Israel!” 10 And when the officer’s friends returned to his house, they found the slave completely healed.