



## **Increase our Faith**

### Bible Class Notes

**Luke 17:1-5 KJV** - [1] *Then said he unto the disciples, It is impossible but that offences will come: but woe unto him, through whom they come! [2] It were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and he cast into the sea, than that he should offend one of these little ones. [3] Take heed to yourselves: If thy brother trespass against thee, rebuke him; and if he repent, forgive him. [4] And if he trespass against thee seven times in a day, and seven times in a day turn again to thee, saying, I repent; thou shalt forgive him. [5] And the apostles said unto the Lord, Increase our faith.*

- ❖ **PowerPoint:** FAITH is the single most important spiritual attribute a believer must possess in order to live a life that is purposeful, productive and pleasing to God.

**Hebrews 11:6 KJV** - [6] *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.*

**Proverbs 16:16, 22 KJV** - [16] *How much better is it to get wisdom than gold! and to get understanding rather to be chosen than silver! 22] Understanding is a wellspring of life unto him that hath it:*

**Understanding = Biynah =**

- 1: Discernment
- 2: Act
- 3: Faculty
- 4: Object
- 5: Personified

**Luke 7:1-10 KJV** - [1] *Now when he had ended all his sayings in the audience of the people, he entered into Capernaum. 2] And a certain centurion's servant, who was dear unto him, was sick, and ready to die.*

- ❖ **PowerPoint:** The people that are important to you are important to God. Jesus is touched with the “feeling” of our infirmities.

**Luke 7:1-10 KJV** - 3] *And when he heard of Jesus, he sent unto him the elders of the Jews, beseeching him that he would come and heal his servant. 4] And when they came to Jesus, they besought him instantly, saying, That he was worthy for whom he should do this: 5] For he loveth our nation, and he hath built us a synagogue.*

This is a great example of individuals who knew the law of God, but had no understanding of the love of God. Their appeal to Jesus to heal the centurions servant was merit based. But the centurions request was not merit based, it was FAITH BASED.



**Luke 7:1-10 KJV** - 6] Then Jesus went with them. And when he was now not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to him, saying unto him, Lord, trouble not thyself: for I am not worthy that thou shouldest enter under my roof: 7] Wherefore neither thought I myself worthy to come unto thee: but say in a word, and my servant shall be healed. [8] For I also am a man set under authority, having under me soldiers, and I say unto one, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it. 9] When Jesus heard these things, he marvelled at him, and turned him about, and said unto the people that followed him, I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel. [10] And they that were sent, returning to the house, found the servant whole that had been sick.

- ❖ **PowerPoint:** Faith is taking God at his word and applying the word believed with corresponding acts of obedience. ~CST

**Hebrews 11:7-8 KJV** - [7] By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith. 8] By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.

- ❖ **PowerPoint:** Faith is acquiring the knowledge of what God wants done while possessing the understanding that God wanting something done does not mean that he will do it for you.

In activating faith, it is important to understand from the Scriptures that God has not blessed one person with more faith than He has blessed someone else. People often see someone prospering according to the Word, whether in their health, their finances, their ministry, their business, their family, and so forth, and they get the mistaken impression that God must have given that person more faith.

- ❖ **PowerPoint:** Every believer has been given the same measure of the God-kind of faith.

**EPHESIANS 2:8** - *For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: IT IS THE GIFT OF GOD.*

**Romans 12:3 KJV** - [3] For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

**Measure = Metron =**

- 1: Determined Extent
- 2: Portion Measured Off
- 3: The Required Amount
- 4: The Due, Fit

**2 things are fundamental to our faith:**



- 1: That faith comes from God. It is the “gift of God.”
- 2: That God has given to every believer the same measure, of faith.

Notice also that God has done it (Rom. 12:3); it’s not something that He is going to do.

- We’re not trying to get faith.
- We’re not praying for it.
- We have it.
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It’s up to you what you do with the measure of faith God has given you.

- ❖ **PowerPoint:** The measure of faith given to a believer can be increased. But you’re the one who increases it, not God.

You increase your faith by doing two things:

**1: Feeding your faith the Word of God and....**

*Jeremiah 15:16 KJV - [16] Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O Lord God of hosts.*

**Romans 10:8-11, 17 KJV**

*[8] But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach; [11] For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. 17] So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*

**2: Faith is increased by exercising it; meaning putting it into practice.**

*1 Timothy 4:6-7 KJV - [6] If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine, whereunto thou hast attained. 7] But refuse profane and old wives' fables, and exercise thyself rather unto godliness.*

*Jude 1:20-21 KJV - [20] But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, 21] Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.*

**MATTHEW 4:4.-** *Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.*

Jesus is using a natural human idea to convey a spiritual thought. He’s saying to us that what bread (or food) is to the body, the Word of God is to the spirit, or the heart, of man. We understand that if you eat food regularly, it will build you up physically. Yet if you eat right but don’t exercise, all you’ll do is get flabby and out of shape. In much the same way, we need to feed our faith on God’s Word. But we also need to exercise our faith, because if we don’t, our faith will be weak and flabby.



In Romans 10:8, Paul called the message he preached the word of faith.

He called the Word of God the word of faith, because the Word will cause faith to come into your heart (Romans. 10:17).

The Word of God tells us that our faith can grow. Therefore, one person's faith may not be as developed or as strong as another person's faith. Remember, it's up to you what you do with the measure of faith God has given you.

**2Thessalonians 1:3** says, "We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is meet, because that your FAITH GROWETH EXCEEDINGLY. . . ."

- God is saying that faith can grow.

**LUKE 12:28** - *If then God so clothe the grass, which is today in the field, and to morrow is cast into the oven; how much more will he clothe you, O YE OF LITTLE FAITH?*

**MATTHEW 14:28–31 – 28]** *And Peter answered [Jesus] and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water.29] And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus.30] But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me. 31 And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O THOU OF LITTLE FAITH, wherefore didst thou doubt?*

**Matthew 14:31**, Jesus asked Peter, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?"

**ROMANS 4:19** - *And being not WEAK IN FAITH, he [Abraham] considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sara's womb.*

**ROMANS 4:20** - *20 He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was STRONG IN FAITH, giving glory to God.*

We already mentioned that the Bible talks about growing faith (2 Thess. 1:3).

- Acts 6:5 says Stephen was *full of faith*.
- James 2:5 mentions *rich faith*.
- James 2:22 speaks of *a perfect faith*.
- First Timothy 1:5 speaks of *unfeigned faith, or faith that is genuine and sincere*.
- First Timothy 1:19 speaks of *shipwrecked faith and of holding on to faith and to a good conscience*.
- And First John 5:4 speaks of *overcoming faith*.

- ❖ **PowerPoint:** Most Christians feed their body three hot meals a day and their spirit one cold snack a week. And they wonder why they're so weak in faith."

God's Word is faith food, and if we want our faith to grow, we must feed it more than once a week! If you want your faith to grow, you have to start where you are.



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As a result he could believe God for more.

- So keep a positive attitude about your own faith.
- Recognize that you have faith and that you can cause it to grow.
- Feed your faith and exercise it right where you are in your Christian walk. Then your faith can grow and move mountains!