

Repentance Tabernacle Church

RepentanceTabernacle@gmail.com www.RepentanceTabernacle.org (984) 369-5171

## Faith!

**Scripture:** Hebrews 11:1, 6 -<sup>1</sup>Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. <sup>6</sup> 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.

**What is faith**? It is total dependence on God and a willingness to do His will. It is not something we use to put on a show for others. It is complete and humble obedience to God's will, readiness to do whatever He calls us to do. The amount of faith isn't as important as the right kind of faith—faith in our all-powerful God.

**The starting point of everyone's experience and relationship with God is faith**. It is the foundation of everything that we receive from God. *"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"* (Romans 12:3). There are two words that describe our faith: <u>confidence and certainty</u>. These two qualities need a secure beginning and ending point. The **beginning point** of faith is believing in God's character—He is who He says. The **ending point** is believing in God's promises—He will do what He says. When we believe that God will fulfill His promises even though we don't see those promises materializing, we demonstrate true faith.

Before the flood, when knowledge was minimal, faith played a very important role. Because of faith, Abel sacrificed, Enoch walked with God, and Noah moved with fear. Later, Abraham obeyed the call of God and journeyed by faith. Moses would not be known as Pharaoh's grandson. His faith would not permit it. All of the faithful who are named in <u>Hebrews 11</u> and in other books of the Bible obtained a good report because of their faith. Faith brough miraculous deliverance to some. Others endured trials of all kinds and died as martyrs while maintaining their faith in their coming Messiah. **But all had one thing in common—faith in the promises of God**. Even though they lived before the Cross and were excluded from receiving the wonderful promises available to us, still they stood out as champions of faith.

Believing that God exists is only the beginning; even the demons believe that much (James 2:19-20). God will not settle for mere acknowledgment of His existence. He wants a personal, dynamic, life-transforming relationship with you. Those who "**diligently seek him**" will find that they are rewarded with God's intimate presence. When you tell others about the Gospel, encourage them to be honest and diligent in their search for truth.

Since God dealt us the measure of faith, what we do with it and how we develop it is all important. Where the walk of faith eventually takes us depends on how much or how little we are able or willing to utilize our faith. **Do we allow our faith to flourish and thrive, or have we choked and crippled it by unbelief and disobedience**?

Faith brings into the realm of possibility anything that God can do—and God can do all things. <u>Paul stated</u>: "*I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me*" (Philippians 4:13). God's power is unlimited; He can do all things. The only things mentioned in Scripture that God cannot do are things that are contrary to His nature, not beyond the sphere of His power.

To pray effectively, you need faith in God, not faith in the object of your request. If you focus only on your request, you will be left with nothing if your request is refused. Faith makes it possible for us to please God. It is the means by which we operate in the Spirit realm. Providing us with the means of obtaining, it becomes our purchasing power concerning God's provisions. It also enables us to understand the mysteries of the kingdom. Faith gave some the courage to die for what they knew was right. They bravely endured persecution and torture. The world was not worthy of them. They made good grades on God's report card. However, it takes the church to complete their experience. Only by joining with the church in the New Jerusalem will they finally be complete.

## Faith makes it possible to please God, therefore becoming its own reward, regardless of the end results of the believers' personal victories or defeat.



Repentance Tabernacle Church RepentanceTabernacle@gmail.com www.RepentanceTabernacle.org (984) 369-5171