

Believing

The Challenges We Face Today

The challenge that many followers of Jesus face is whether they really believe what they think they believe. We must make sure we understand what it means to believe so we are not deceived by thinking we believe something when we really do not.

- We may profess to believe something but our thinking, attitudes, and actions demonstrate otherwise.
- We think we believe the right things regarding the Christian life but we must challenge our every belief.
- We must ensure every belief we have lines up with God's viewpoint, not man's.
- We don't realize that our actions and attitudes flow from our beliefs and are evidence of what we truly believe.

We must learn what it means to believe and then develop the right disciplines to ensure we have the right beliefs and are living what we profess to believe.

Lesson Truth

If I truly believe in God and in His word I must choose to think and act as if I really believe. My believing must be evidenced in my thinking, my attitudes and my actions. This simply means my life must line up with my belief in God and what He says in His Word.

Lesson Goal

The goal for this lesson is for you to examine your life and beliefs to ensure you have the right beliefs and that those beliefs are evidenced in your thinking, attitudes and actions. You must develop the discipline of continually watching your life because the problems you experience are often the result of wrong beliefs. You must deal with those wrong beliefs by seeking God's

viewpoint in His Word and then choose to believe what He says and live as if you believe it.

Lesson Discussion

Believing Defined

To believe is to have confidence in the truth of what is believed even without absolute proof. My confidence is such that my thinking, attitudes and actions are directed by that belief. I may like a truth or agree with a truth, but unless I have confidence that it is true, I do not really believe it and will not live by it.

We all have many beliefs and notions about many things. A notion is something I ponder but a belief is something I place my confidence in. Notions come and go, but right beliefs build right character. As a follower of Christ if I have absolute assurance in Him and His Word then my thinking, attitudes and actions will evidence my belief in Him.

Believing in Jesus Christ is not an intellectual choice. It is a deep conviction by the Holy Spirit in a person's conscience about what one professes to believe. When we find our thinking, attitudes, actions are not lining up with what we say we believe, we have to find the cause. Right beliefs generate right thinking, attitudes and actions and wrong beliefs generate wrong thinking, attitudes and actions.

Unless a belief is acted upon and integrated into one's life, it is only a notion. I may truly believe that I need to repent and put my faith in Jesus Christ, but unless I act it will just be another good notion. Believing necessitates action or else you do not believe. Disciples must continually examine their attitudes, thinking and actions to identify what they really believe and what they do not really believe.



Romans 4:3 ESV "For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness."

This reference to Abraham goes back to the time God told Abraham to sacrifice his son. This was after God had told him that he would be the father of many nations, yet here was God asking him to sacrifice the one who would make that promise come true.

Abraham has two choices as do we in any circumstance in our life: we believe God or we don't. Abraham believed God because he had absolute assurance in God. He did not act out of compulsion or guilt, but from his absolute confidence in God. He did not waver but acted in obedience according to God's direction without disputing or doubt. He had absolute confidence that what God promised would become reality regardless of circumstances.

This act of Abraham was an act of faith based on his belief in God. Faith is simply acting in accordance to what I believe. Abraham believed God and then stepped out in faith to obey God's command.

We will often be tested as Abraham was to demonstrate whether we really believe God. From a human perspective, Abraham could have faltered and refused to obey by acting on common sense. He could have reasoned and argued that God must be mistaken and that God did not realize He was nullifying His own promise. Abraham by faith chose instead to believe God's promise despite events and circumstances because he believed that what God promised could not be otherwise.



Romans 3:22 ESV "the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction"

We also receive this same righteousness that Abraham received through simply believing what God has said and acting on it. Believing is what gives us the possibility of receiving God's promises. We need to reassure ourselves everyday of God's faithfulness to His promises and examine ourselves to see if we still have absolute confidence in Him.

When we truly believe something our thinking, attitudes, and actions will affirm whether we really believe it. That is very different than just agreeing that something is true but not living according to it. Believing requires absolute confidence which then acts in faith according to our believing. It is easy to see where confusion comes in regarding what a person thinks they believe and what they truly believe.

Right Beliefs

It is critical that we have absolute assurance in right beliefs. If we have absolute assurance in the wrong beliefs, no matter how right or religious we think those beliefs might be, we will miss out on the life God intends for us. We must continually examine our beliefs to make sure they line up with God's Word.

If I am having problems in my life or struggling spiritually, most likely I have a belief issue. We all have a bucket of beliefs, both right and wrong beliefs that we believe are true. Our thinking, attitudes and actions will evidence what those beliefs are. Many problems are the result of wrong beliefs that lead to wrong thinking, attitudes and actions. We must work on removing wrong beliefs so Godly character can prevail in our lives.

A good example is worry. Jesus told us not to worry about our life. Do I believe it is possible to live a worry free life? Would Jesus tell us to do something that is impossible for us to do? If I have worry it is evidence that I do not really believe God. Worry is one of the most difficult areas for most believers but it is simply a belief issue, not a character fault or human nature issue. If I have absolute assurance in God in regards to worry, it becomes possible for me not to worry.

Do I have absolute assurance that no matter what happens to me, no matter what the situation, circumstance or events in my life that it is going to be ok? If you believed that all the time, how much more peace would you have in your life. If you watch your life and catch yourself each time you find yourself worrying

and then choose to believe God and let it go, your life will be very different.

A person may agree that God has promised to provide for us. Yet if there is worry and doubt that God will provide they don't really believe God and they need to find out why they won't believe Him just now. We must get honest in the areas where we don't really believe God so we can purge those wrong beliefs out of our belief bucket. One reason we won't believe God is because we don't really trust Him. If that is an issue with you can review the Trust and Obey lesson to work on your trust issue.

Origin of Our Beliefs

Throughout our lives we have gathered a great many beliefs about a great many things. Our belief buckets have hundreds of things we accepted or thought were true. Our character is a reflection of our belief bucket. The more Godly beliefs you have the more godly character you will demonstrate

Often we don't even think about our bucket of beliefs. Every belief you have you chose at some point in your life. You are the culmination of your right and wrong beliefs.. Your thinking, actions and attitudes are driven by your beliefs. When we act according to our right beliefs, we do right. When we act according to our wrong beliefs, we do wrong.

You are where you are today because of your thinking, attitudes and actions that were driven by your beliefs, good or bad. Whether those beliefs were chosen consciously or unconsciously, they are in your bucket. But the great thing is that they are not cemented in the bucket. Wrong beliefs can and must be replaced with right beliefs.

When you change what you believe and begin to choose right beliefs your character will change and you will become a different person in the future. As you choose to align your life with God's viewpoint in all areas of your life, your character will change towards godly character.

Examine Your Beliefs

You can test what you truly believe by simply asking yourself "are my attitudes, actions and thinking demonstrating at this moment what I profess to believe in regards to God's viewpoint in His Word"? This does not mean that because you choose to believe something that it will be reflected in your life all the time. There are many temptations and they require a constant vigilance in your thinking, your attitudes and your actions so they stay aligned with God's Word in any situation.

We will make mistakes and poor choices at times even though we truly believe. We can easily step back into old beliefs because it was a habit for a long time and it takes time and vigilance to put in place new thinking, attitudes and actions. God's grace is sufficient for us when we fail because God knows our heart's desire is to walk according to His Word.

The Holy Spirit will remind us through our conscience when we have acted wrongly. If you acted wrongly but believed you were in the right it will create a problem for you and others. It now becomes an opportunity to get God's viewpoint in that circumstance. It is all too easy to justify ourselves in a situation, but wrong thinking, attitudes and actions can never be justified. You will need to think it through until you identify the wrong belief and then get God's viewpoint.

For instance, if you are mean or ruded to people at times, there is a wrong belief that must be identified and replaced with the right belief. The wrong belief may be that you believe the person deserved it or that they shouldn't have treated you that way or they were getting in your way or whatever. Never try to justify yourself when the Holy Spirit convicts your conscience. Take steps to resolve the wrong beliefs associated with the event.

If you struggle with impatience or self control, you must identify the wrong belief and then be diligent in that area to find God's viewpoint and then believe what God says. Then you thinking,

attitudes and actions can change. Right beliefs lead to right thinking, attitudes and actions.

Negative emotions are good indicators of a belief problem. There are many negative emotions in life and none of them are pleasant. They are simply indicators of wrong beliefs. They are actually helpful for us because they show us that we have wrong beliefs in our belief bucket. The goal is not just to try to overcome negative emotions but find out the root cause behind them.

Because we all have so many wrong beliefs it takes a lot of patience and time for our character to change and become more Godly. You cannot remove all your wrong beliefs instantly. The most difficult wrong beliefs are those we don't even know we have. But the evidence will always show up in your thinking, attitudes and actions.

Purging Your Belief Bucket

All our beliefs in our belief bucket are not equally impactful on our lives. Some wrong beliefs are significantly affecting your thinking, attitudes and actions more than others. Some wrong beliefs will have a minor impact while others will have a significant impact. It is like a pile of rocks. Some rocks are significantly larger. Start with the big unbelieving rocks and deal with those first. Ask the Holy Spirit to show you where to start on your list of problem areas.

How will you know which ones are the big rocks? They will be the ones causing the biggest problems and biggest pain in your life. They are robbing you of peace, contentment and joy. You can begin by writing down the five biggest problem areas in your life. Then write down your beliefs, thinking, attitudes and actions that pertain to those problems.

You can then identify the wrong beliefs you currently hold in regards to those problems. Ask yourself questions like "what was my response and was it God honoring? What feelings were present at that time? How am I dealing with these problems?" The goal is to

identify the wrong beliefs and replace them with the right beliefs.

Just remember to first identify the wrong reactions and then identify the thinking and attitudes associated with them. Then find the wrong belief by seeking God's viewpoint about those things. This requires honest reflection and time with God, His Word, and the Holy Spirit. The process below will help you learn how to identify and change wrong beliefs. You may need assistance from a seasoned disciple to help you with this process if you are not able to do this on your own.

One by One

When you have your list of five things, pick the one that is most troublesome. You only need to work on one thing at a time. You will need to apply consistency and steadfastness as you step out to replace the wrong belief(s) with the right belief(s). We are not changing our beliefs so we appear more self-righteous to others, but only for the purpose of pleasing God by believing what He says and living by it.

Stay with the first rock until you have demonstrated consistent right thinking, attitudes and actions. It may take you a week, a month or even a year. Stick with it and follow the steps below so as not to fall back into wrong believing. Watch out for pride and make sure you keep a thankful attitude towards God in the process.

Here are the steps in the process to identify wrong believing.

Step 1: Identify five problem areas first. Write down briefly the specific thinking, attitudes, feelings and actions associated with each of the five problem areas.

Step 2: Choose one of the problem areas and the most recent incident relating to it. Write down what would be the right thinking, attitudes, and actions for that incident. You may find there may be more than one problem issue under the one you have chosen. Often there are

multiple negative emotions involved as well as multiple reactions.

For instance: When so and so said this to me I got angry and defensive, was rude, combative and blaming so I ate an entire pizza and drank five beers when I got home as a result of the bad feelings. Another example is you were laid off from your job and fear and worry have flooded in and now you are angry, discouraged, irritable, impatient, and blaming.

Step 3: The goal is to get to the root of the problem, the wrong beliefs underlying the problem. After you have written down the thinking, attitudes, and actions (what you said and what you did) associated with the incident write down all the negative emotions that you can remember associated with the incident. Emotions such as worry, fear, pride, hurt, demeaning, anger, felt accused, belittled, insulted, and whatever you felt during the incident.

Just don't get overwhelmed with all the specifics of the situation. We are going to boil this down to one or two main wrong beliefs that are driving the strongest negative emotions and worst wrong actions. The actions and emotions will point to the wrong thinking, wrong attitudes and finally, the wrong beliefs. Then you will deal with one wrong belief at a time. This is where the assistance of someone experienced in this process can help if you get stuck and cannot move forward.

Step 4: Pick the strongest negative emotion you experienced in the situation and the worst of the actions when you reacted. In the first example above, the strongest emotion may have been hurt and the worst action may have been rudeness. Write those two down under a heading called resolution. This is where we will begin applying the process of resolution which will then be followed by reconciliation.

Resolution simply means we uncover the wrong beliefs and renounce them and replace them with right beliefs and thereby right thinking, attitudes and actions. Remember, our thinking, attitudes and actions are drive by our beliefs. As

we break complex issues down into their simplest form it becomes much easier to begin cleaning out wrong beliefs in our belief bucket

Step 5: Ask yourself why you felt that emotion. Write out the answer next to the emotion. Be completely honest with yourself. An example is "I felt hurt because no one appreciates what I have done". Do the same thing with the action you wrote down. Why did I act like that? An example is "I was rude to get back at them". Now you have two very specific issues that can be examined in light of God's Word.

Most likely you have been in that type situation many times before in your life and acted and felt the same way many times because you still hold the same wrong beliefs, often for many years. This is very normal and common in life, but it does not have to be normal or common anymore with you.

Keep a personal journal of your progress so you can go back and review it if the same issue surfaces again. Wrong beliefs can be persistent and will often catch us off guard again until we develop a new habit of responding from right beliefs.

Wrong Belief Resolution

We have identified the specific emotion and action for the specific incident and have written down why we felt and acted like we did. The steps in resolution are to examine the emotion and action in light of God's Word which is His viewpoint. There are specific truths in God's Word that show us God's viewpoint on every situation in life. Once we have God's viewpoint on the emotion and action, we will know what wrong beliefs need to go and what right beliefs we need to appropriate to change in our thinking, attitudes and actions going forward.

God's Word is the owner's manual for the believer. It reveals to us who God is and how God has designed us to live peaceful and content lives as we develop Godly character to glorify Him. If we don't follow the user's manual our lives will end up in disaster because

we will fail to heed the warnings and principles He gave us for our good.

God has a specific viewpoint on everything man will encounter. He has a specific viewpoint on the negative emotions and wrong actions that accompanied the incident you are examining. He has a warning or principle that addresses your negative emotions and actions and if you will accept and believe what He shows you then your peace can be restored and forgiveness can be received. You will then be on guard for that same type of event in the future.

Jesus set the example of how we are to live. The Apostle James says if we profess to believe in Him we must walk as He walked. You cannot know how He walked if you do not read the New Testament. If you are not conversant in God's Word you will need to do learn how to find out what God says. Most bibles have a concordance in the back to search on particular topics. There are many good computer bible search applications available to find out God's viewpoint on any matter.

You can also get assistance from a seasoned disciple so you can eventually learn to resolve these wrong beliefs on your own. It is like fishing. Rather than always asking for a fish because you cannot catch your own, you must learn how to fish and catch your own fish.

God created us such that we can deal with our wrong beliefs by reading and studying His word and then simply believe His Word. You should be reading our bible every day. A chapter in the gospels and a chapter in the letters each day will help remind you of God's viewpoint on the issues of life.

Here are the specific steps for resolving wrong believing after you have identified the negative emotions and wrong actions. Remember that negative emotions are just indicators of your state of thinking. Emotions just are. Negative emotions help us realize that something is out of order in our thinking and attitudes.

Step 1: Before you look in the bible, take a prayer break and ask God to see if He will show

you by speaking to your mind His viewpoint on the emotion and action. You may already know the wrong beliefs associated with the problem. Think about what God might say would be the right way to look at that emotion or action. What would it look like in that event if you felt or acted differently? What would be the right emotion and action in that event? Write down whatever comes to your mind without judging, justifying, or explaining it away. It is ok if nothing comes to your mind.

Step 2: Now find God's viewpoint in His Word on the specific emotion and action from your event. Google is a very helpful tool to get you started although it can sometimes give you too much information or be overwhelming. What you are looking for is not man's idea of what God says, but the specific bible verse that gives guidance on God's viewpoint on the matter.

Step 3: Write down the bible verses next to the emotion and action. You may find several verses addressing the topic. See if the bible verses match what you wrote down during your prayer break.

Step 4: Think back into the event and see yourself feeling and acting according to God's viewpoint. You must accept and believe God's viewpoint and commit to live by it. That is what it means to believe. You are changing from what you believed before to a new belief that acknowledges God's viewpoint. You can say you now believe it once it is evidenced in your life in different thinking, attitudes and actions.

It is important to remember that negative emotions are driven by our thinking. When you give in to negative emotions and let them direct your actions, you are trapped. See yourself thinking differently in the event, acting according to God's viewpoint such as giving the benefit of the doubt, trusting God, and giving thanks in all things.

For instance, in the example above the emotion was hurt. Maybe see yourself humbly receiving the hurting words and maybe not responding at all or just saying, "I see what you are saying, thank you for your observation. I will consider

it.” It does not mean you agree with the person’s viewpoint, only that you are open to considering if it is valid or not.

People like to control other people and they know how to trigger negative emotions in you. If you argue or try to justify yourself, the other person most likely will not back down unless it was just a misunderstanding about the facts of the situation which you can then explain. Avoid arguing or blaming and retreat from the situation until you have had a chance to look at it from God’s viewpoint.

If it is an unjust accusation just see yourself being thankful to God in your mind knowing the other person is treating you wrongly. Explain your viewpoint to the other person if the other person seems reasonable and then agree to disagree or do whatever the Lord shows you to do. Then see yourself immediately forgiving them so there is no resentment or bitterness after the event. Let it go.

Step 5: Come up with a few statements of response that you will memorize and use next time a similar event happens. We are nowhere instructed to argue or justify ourselves if we did nothing wrong. There will always be ignorant and mean people around. Satan will use them to attack you so that you are overcome by negative emotions and ungodly actions. Be on guard and be prepared.

This process requires a lot of patience as we change the way we think in such situation. As our beliefs change our thinking, attitudes and actions will change. As you work on one thing at a time and are able to think and act differently in those same situations you will avoid the negative emotions and wrong actions and you will be able to maintain your peace which will be a good witness to the other person.

You may not succeed every time in those events, but event by event you can begin to develop the habit of thinking and responding according to right beliefs and maintain your peace and act rightly more often. When you have achieved a good level of success on one wrong belief, you can move on to another.

Reconciliation

The last step is getting reconciled with God and the other person if you offended someone. This is a simple step but it can be very difficult to apologize to someone, especially if they also offended you. But you have no choice in the matter. You must forgive them and apologize if you offended them.

If it is not helpful to try to justify your response to the other person. Don’t say “If you had not said or done that then I would not have acted the way I did.” Simply say something like “I am sorry if I offended you and I wanted to let you know.”

God says if we do not forgive others He will not forgive us. That is a very stern warning. Bitterness and resentment are spiritual poisons that glorify Satan. Forgive and let go. If you have to do it a hundred times a day until it is gone, then so be it. How many times has God forgiven you when you did not deserve forgiveness?

We must also ask God’s forgiveness for our wrong beliefs, wrong thinking, wrong attitudes and wrong actions. He is always willing to forgive us if we repent of those things and commit to believe Him and His Word in the future. When He forgives us He no longer remembers the wrong.

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The Process in Action

Let’s look at a common example from life that most people have to deal with. You find that you worry often. Worry is a negative emotion that is harmful to our physical, emotional, mental and spiritual lives. You want to stop worrying so you pick that as the first problem area.

At the end of your day find a place to be alone and begin to follow the process above. Write out a situation that you are worried about. You may have several worries, but start with the one that seems most significant. Then write out why

you are worried? Be honest with yourself as this process is only between you and God and maybe your disciple trainer.

Next spend a few minutes in prayer clearing your mind and thinking about what God would say about your worry and this situation. Write down what comes to your mind regardless of how silly or serious it seems. Then find bible verses that show God's viewpoint on worry and the specific situation. Accept what God's shows you and choose to believe it. Do anything about the situation God shows you to do.

Then let the situation go, keep pushing it away, pushing it out of your mind. You must choose to guard your thinking and not keep churning on possible outcomes. The future is God's, not yours, so stay out of His business. It will be just as God chooses it to be, whether it is what you want or not. Just do what He shows you to do and leave the rest to Him.

Ask God to forgive you for not trusting Him and commit to trusting Him absolutely in that circumstance. Remind yourself a hundred times a day if necessary until you are at peace in the situation. Every time it comes to your mind give thanks and praise Him until your mind is free. God will engineer the circumstances just as He chooses and if you honor Him and trust Him, it will work for your good, not for your harm.



One Step for Living This Truth

Next we will suggest the specific action step you can take to allow the truth taught in this lesson to be lived in your own personal life.

This step is not to instantly eliminate all unbelief in your life as that takes a long time for many reasons. This next step is simply a starting point for you to begin the journey into freedom, peace, contentment and a godly character.

ACTION STEP

Read through this lesson until you know what it means to really believe.

Spend at least 10 minutes a day reading the Gospels and Letters beginning with Matthew. Read a whole chapter at a time if you can every day. This will help you to begin to see God's viewpoint more clearly in many areas of your life.

When you are sure of what it means to believe, begin the process of dealing with your wrong beliefs one at a time following the process in this lesson. If you get stuck at some point be sure to ask for assistance for your disciple trainer. You will have completed this lesson when you have resolved at least 5 areas of wrong beliefs in your life.

Bumper Sticker Summary

Believing simply means accepting what God says as true and then living your life as if you truly believe it. Your actions and speech affirm what you truly believe. If your life doesn't affirm it, you don't really believe it.

Illustration

Tom was a new believer, barely a year into the Christian life. He enjoyed going to church and hearing the Word of God. He enjoyed the other activities of church such as bible studies and potluck suppers. But something was bothering him that he could not quite figure out. Most of the believers in his church knew a lot about the bible and were active in praise and worship. Yet he sensed many were struggling with their faith and he saw behaviors among believers that made him begin to doubt the authenticity of their faith.

They would talk church talk and talk about the bible and following Jesus, but behind the scenes he saw dysfunctions in the church body that made him begin to think that this Christian stuff isn't real. He saw disagreements, people talking about other people, exclusive groups, and a lot of discontentment and contention. It seemed people put on their church life when at church, but at home or at work it was a different story.

Tom did not want to get wrapped up in judgmental and critical finger pointing. He respected the pastor and enjoyed his sermons but the sermons never seemed to bring home the point. It seemed they skirted the real issues that were going on in the fellowship. It wasn't long before Tom decided to look for another church.

After visiting several churches Tom became discouraged. He was wondering if Christianity was really what he thought it was in the beginning when he was saved. It seemed he went through the honeymoon phase of being a new Christian and now was facing the reality that he was seeing in the churches he had experienced. It just seemed something was missing.

Tom had a neighbor, Bob, whom he did not know very well, but one day Tom asked him if he could recommend a good church. Bob said that he attended a specific church but suggested to Tom a program that he was involved with that taught discipleship – following Jesus. He said that this discipleship journey that he was on had more impact on his spiritual growth than any church he had attended.

Tom was curious and asked Bob to share more about this discipleship program. Bob shared that this program was a one-on-one program where new disciples have a mentor and teacher who are experienced on the disciple journey to travel the journey with a new disciple. Bob said the most important thing he learned that helped him experience the true reality of the Christian faith was learning to live in the reality of the beliefs he professed to believe.

He stated that many people know many truths of the bible but the missing link is that they are never taught how to live in the reality of what they believe. That made sense to Tom and so he agreed to meet with Bob and start a journey into a real Christian faith and to learn to live the truths that he professed to believe with others who were doing the same.



Scriptures on Believing

You may want to review each of these scriptures in context of the chapter when they are found to

Matthew 21:32 NSV “For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. And even when you saw it, you did not afterward change your minds and believe him.”

Mark 1:15 ESV “and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

Mark 9:24 ESV “Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, “I believe; help my unbelief!”

Mark 16:16 ESV “Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.”

Luke 18:12 ESV “The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved.”

Luke 18:13 ESV “And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe for a while, and in time of testing fall away.”

Luke 24:5 ESV “And he said to them, “O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken!”

John 1:12 ESV “But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God,”

John 3:16 ESV ““For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.”

John 3:18 ESV “Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.”

John 3:36 ESV “Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.”

John 4:50 ESV “Jesus said to him, “Go; your son will live.” The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and went on his way.”

John 5:24 ESV “Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.”

John 5:38 ESV “and you do not have his word abiding in you, for you do not believe the one whom he has sent.”

John 6:29 ESV “Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.”

Acts 4:4 ESV “But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand.”

Acts 10:43 ESV “To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

Acts 13:39 ESV “and by him everyone who believes is freed from everything from which you could not be freed by the law of Moses.”

Acts 15:11 ESV “But we believe that we will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will.”

Romans 1:16 ESV “For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.”

Romans 4:5 ESV “And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness,”

Romans 10:4 ESV “For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.”

Romans 10:9 ESV “because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.”

Romans 10:10 ESV “For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.”

1 Corinthians 13:7 ESV “Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.”

1 Corinthians 15:2 “and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain,”

Galatians 2:15 ESV “yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified.”

Galatians 3:22 ESV “But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.”

Ephesians 1:13 ESV “In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit,”

Ephesians 1:19 ESV “and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might”

2 Thessalonians 2:12 ESV “in order that all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.”

2 Timothy 1:12 ESV “which is why I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that he is able to guard until that day what has been entrusted to me.”

2 Timothy 2:14 ESV “But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it”

Titus 3:8 ESV “The saying is trustworthy, and I want you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to devote themselves to good works. These things are excellent and profitable for people”

Hebrews 11:6 ESV “without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.”

James 2:19 ESV “You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder!”

1 Peter 1:8 ESV “Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory,”

1 John 3:23 ESV “And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us.”

1 John 4:1 ESV “Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world.”

1 John 4:16 ESV “So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.”

1 John 5:1 ESV “Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of him.”

1 John 5:5 ESV “Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?”

1 John 5:10 ESV “Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. Whoever does not believe God has made him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has borne concerning his Son.”

1 John 5:13 ESV “I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life.”