"Increase our Faith"

"The apostles said to the Lord, 'Increase our faith!"" (Luke 17:5)

It takes faith to become a Christian... Just a "little grain of mustard seed like faith" in the saving gospel of Jesus Christ! But once you are in the faith, you shouldn't become too contented with little and weak faith... Instead, you should strive to grow, mature, and like the Apostles desired, have your faith increased! Now, please don't understand me here... Yes, there are times in my walk with the Lord that all I can do is cling to the hem of Jesus' garment with an ounce of faith. Yet God in His grace seems to always grant the increase and blessing of faith when I need it the most.

And so, how can we increase our faith? First, off like the Apostles, we must ask the Lord to increase our faith. Jesus as the "Author and Perfector of the faith" is the One who graciously strengthens our faith (Hebrews 12:2). Secondly, we should seek to be in fellowship with other people of the faith. For our faith to grow we must be around other believers. In the Household of God among our dear brothers and sisters in the Lord is where the mutual upbuilding of the faith occurs. The one who is actively participating in the life of his or her local church normally has a stronger and more sound faith than the one who isn't.

Thirdly, we must be reading and soaking in the Words of Faith. Paul said to the Christians living in Rome that: "Faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ" (Romans 10:17). And so this means that if we are seeking an increase in our faith, then we need to increase our intake of God's Holy Word. We need to be reading the Word devotionally and privately. We need to be attending Sunday School and weekly Bible Study as much as we can. And we need to set with our hearts humbled and ears up when the Word is preached from the pulpit.

Partaking in the Lord's Supper, serving in the community, mentoring other believers, praying for others, the list can go on... There are many things that we can do to increase our faith. But the key is that we must ask Jesus in faith and believe that He will truly "increase our faith!" Think of it like exercise or preparation for a sporting event... The athlete trains and seeks to increase muscle, stamina, and their overall capability... In the same way, we must be training ourselves for godliness and growing in the faith (Titus 2:12).

This summer as things hopefully slow down a little bit... Take time to reset your heart at the feet of Jesus. And like the Apostles once did, ask the Giver of all good things to Increase your Faith!

Respect the Blood, Dalton Mathis