

DEAN

INTENTIONAL FAITH

We talked about Faith in a previous class, but today we want to talk about - Intentional Faith.

When we say we want to do something, or hope to do something, or we might do something, - this is usually based on circumstances - But if we say we intend to do something or go somewhere, we prioritize it and plan for it - and work toward that goal - it is pre-meditated - Not conditional.

So it is with Faith - Faith is more than a feeling - more than just "Perhaps" but Knowing without a doubt. We are Not born with Faith - we do not inherit Faith. Our Faith cannot be based on another's Faith - it is personal

So our Faith must be strengthened, watered, cultivated and Nurtured to grow.

* Hebrews 11:6 says "Without Faith, it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to Him must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him.

As Born again Believers, we all want to please God

Everyone has Faith in Something.
We live on this planet called Earth,
a round globe in Outerspace, Tilted on
it's axis, rotating and revolving around
the sun and we never think that we
will fall off because of the fact that
no one ever has, and we believe in the
Natural LAW of gravity - And as Christians
we have Faith in our Creator.

Faith begins with our Belief in something
or someone - But it is easy to believe a Lie

IN 1978 at a place called Jonestown,
900 Americans - including children, died
after drinking cyanide laced punch at the
urging of their leader.

Their Faith was in a man they called
the Rev. Jim Jones - Misguided Faith

During the 70's Jones had a membership
estimated to be in the thousands -

The Scriptures warn us about False Teachers
Read John 8:44 - Jesus Speaking To The Jewish Leaders

★ When Paul talks about putting on the whole
armor of God in Ephesians 6:6-18, he says
Above all carry the Shield of Faith with
which you can extinguish all the flaming
arrows of the evil one

So your Faith will protect you
from Satan's Lies.

The faith that pleases God is based upon TRUTH

★ John 17:17 - Jesus Prays
"Sanctify them by the Truth - your Word is Truth"

★ Romans 10:17 "Faith comes from hearing and hearing by the word of God"

Our Faith in God is based on Truth and Facts
The fact that God Never changes and it is
Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17 impossible for God to Lie

Read Hebrews 6:16-19

The Bible speaks of degrees of Faith
Some have No Faith at all - Jesus speaks many times to His followers

"Oh, ye of Little Faith"
He speaks of some with Great Faith

Here are 6 ways to intentionally strengthen your Faith

① Read and Study the Bible

It is God Breathed - it is unique in that it alone delivers Truth and corrects false teaching, provides instruction for daily living, transforms our thinking, renews our minds and guides our decision making.

② Worship the God of the Bible

③ Pray Honest and earnest prayers
Trust that God cares

James 1:2-4

Consider it pure joy, my Brothers,
whenever you face trials of many kinds
because you know that the testing of
your Faith develops perseverance.

Perseverance must finish its work so
you may be mature and complete,
Not Lacking anything

Psalm 30:5

Weeping may endure for a
night -

But rejoicing comes in the
morning

- ④ Unite and Commune with the Saints
which is your Church family
- ⑤ Trust and Obey - Put your Faith to work
for Christ's Kingdom
- ⑥ Make efforts to grow in Godly qualities

Read 2 Peter 1:5-9

Even in times of trouble and adversity,
our Faith can grow and be strengthened.

Read Psalm 119:71

The Psalmist says
in Psalm 119:71

THESE'S BOOK

Read Page 92 - in devotional Book
about Fanny Crosby

← INSERT Both

IN Conclusion -

Our Faith is based on God's Faithfulness
- ON the FACT that God never changes and
it is impossible for God to lie.

Read 2 Corinthians 1:20-22

So we know that every Promise
Christ makes to us is TRUE

→ ADD

May God BLESS each one of you
ON your Journey of INTENTIONAL Faith
GOD'S GIFTS ARE PERFECT & PRECISELY DESIGNED TO SUSTAIN
US IN A WAY THAT FILLS OUR SOUL. LET'S RECEIVE THEM WITH A
HEART FULL OF GRATITUDE & SPEAK OF THEM AS A WAY OF
TESTIFYING TO HIS LOVE.