

KINGDOM FAITH PRINCIPLES



An opportunity to exercise faith is an opportunity to please God. This course looks at Abraham's faith journey and others to learn the principles of faith for daily living.

'But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him. - Hebrews 11:6 NKJV

Read Romans 4 and you will see that Abraham is the father of our faith and we are to walk in his footsteps of faith. However, our ultimate example of faith is the Lord Jesus Christ. He is the author, perfecter and finisher of our faith! - Hebrews 12:2

In the past decades there has been an increase of teaching on faith. Unfortunately, whenever a truth is reemphasized in the body of Christ, some people go to an extreme. People become man-centered instead of God-centered. They see faith as a way to serve their selfish carnal desires instead of a way to please God to accomplish His kingdom purposes on earth. Faith is not a magic formula, it is a trust in an Almighty God who is a good and loving Father who cares about us. - Matthew 6:25-34, James 1:16-17. As you read through the whole Bible and especially the four Gospels about the life and ministry of Jesus, may you read with new eyes of faith. Jesus was pleased to see persons who trusted him with child-like faith.

Jesus told us that the greatest commandment is to love God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength. If we truly love someone we will want to please them. This study is about pleasing God! Does God smile when he sees your thoughts, words and actions? He does if he sees faith! Back in January 1985 God gave me Hebrews 11:6 as a lifetime verse.

Although I had grown up with a good background of the basic truths of the Christian faith, I knew very little about living by faith. It was not until I was in my late 20's that God began to set me free from many fears and lead me into a new walk of faith. This led to full time missionary work for many years overseas. One time when I returned home for a visit, my pastor spoke to me these words of concern about my money situation: 'You need to be more selfish. I could not live by faith like you do.' That pastor was not pleased with me, but I knew that Jesus was. He loves to see us walk by faith. We all have areas of life where we could trust God more. I pray this course helps you.

- John Beckerink

Course Outline

I. FAITH DEFINED

- a. Faith pleases God - lessons from the Hebrews 11 and Habakkuk***
- b. Faith believes God is Real***
- c. Faith believes God is a Rewarder***

II. TYPES OF TRUE FAITH

A. The Faith - Key foundational truths

B. Living Faith and Faith for Living

- 1. Saving faith (justifying)***
- 2. Gift of faith (miracles)***
- 3. Measure of faith (ministry)***
- 4. Fruit of faith (character/ faithfulness)***

III. FAITH'S FRIENDS / COMPANIONS

(15 of them, many from Abraham's life)

IV. FAITH'S ENEMIES

(21 areas are discussed that hinder or stop faith)

Abbreviations Used in this Course:

- Heb.*** Hebrew (language of Old Testament books)
Gk. Greek (original language of New Testament books)
Amp. Amplified translation of the Bible
Vines Vines Expository Dictionary of New Testament words
NIV New International Version (1984)
NKJV New King James Version

Credits: Book: Unfeigned Faith by Judson Cornwall (insights on faith friends and enemies)
Book: Don't Just Stand There, Have Faith by Ron Dunn (insights on Hebrews 11)
Book; What the Bible is All About - Henrietta Mears (insights on Habakkuk)