The Power of Faith

<u>How important is</u> <u>faith?</u>

It takes faith to even believe in Christ; it takes faith to believe that what God says is always right and true; and it takes faith to trust and walk in that each and every day. However, if you're faith doesn't continue to grow in your relationship with Christ, you won't have the faith to see God's Kingdom come not only in your life, but in the lives of those around you.

Whatever faith you have inside of you will determine the outcome of the faith level you'll have for God at work around you. If you don't have faith for God to move, there's a good chance you won't be looking for anything to take place.

Do you realize that the message of your lifewhat you spend your time, money and energy on will scream how much faith [belief] you have put in Christ?

When we read all through the Gospels we see how Jesus loved and always responded to anyone that had faith. He loved it. He loved it when [they] placed their full trust in Him.

- ✓ Matthew 8:5-13
- ✓ Matthew 15:21-28
- ✓ Mark 5:21-24
- ✓ Luke 19:1-10

Also, what's so amazing is that Jesus said you don't even need a lot of faith. Jesus in fact said that just a little amount can move mountains. In other words just a little faith can do amazing things in your life and in the lives of those around you.

- ✓ Matthew 17:20
- ✓ 1 Corinthians 13:2

Jesus said our faith could be compared to a mustard seed. What's interesting is that a mustard seed is [one of] the smallest of all seeds. But it *IS* a seed, nonetheless. A seed is worth more when it continues to grow. You water and feed the seed of your faith by giving it nourishment. We get nourishment by reading Gods Word; worshipping; praying. All those things feed the seed of faith in your life.

✓ Matthew 17:20

Hebrews 4:16 speaks that we should have confidence, which actually means faith—to approach God's throne of grace. Saying you believe is one thing. Walking that out, day in & day out is another... Lets break it down...what faith is and why faith is so important.

Why Faith is Important?

Without faith it's impossible to please God because anyone who comes to Him must believe that he exists and that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him.

Jesus is the object of our faith, reliance and hope.

✓ John 14:6

Where does our faith come from?

✓ Romans 10:17

Q: If the Bible says our faith comes from God, what does that say about us when we place faith in other things?

Faith is a gift, and gifts are imparted.

✓ Ephesians 2:8

Since faith is a gift; just like all the other gifts - that means you cannot earn it. It's a gift. It's given to you; all you have to do is ask, and after you ask, believe that it's yours. It's now time to walk in it.

We can also ask God for more faith.

✓ Luke 17:5

Believing what God says to us is true; even if we don't see it happen right away.

Look at the lives of those that lived lives marked by faith in Hebrews 11.

The interesting theme in Hebrews 11 is found in the great stories of the amazing people that have gone before us is that these people believed in what God spoke to them, even though some didn't see things come to pass in their lifetime. I'm sure they were disappointed or confused at times not seeing things come as they had thought; yet they had confidence in their God.

Faith [and Action]

Being full of faith is one thing; However, it's not just about saying you believe—it's actually doing something [works] to show how much you believe.

Most people don't share Christ with others or step out to pray for them because they're afraid to be embarrassed, [or are] afraid [of being] **rejected**. However, if you want to see God move in the lives of the people around you, taking risks is a part of stepping out.

It's important to remember; "What if no one shared Christ with you?"

Read James 1:22; 2:14; and 2:21-22; and see how faith and deeds work together.

Having a strong faith in what Christ has done for you should be enough to compel you to share God with others. If you don't share your faith in Christ, something isn't right.

Think about the things you talk about. You usually talk about things that are most important to you. Who a person is eventually makes its way out of their mouth. You talk about what you truly believe in. If you're relationship with God is so important to you, and you understand that Christ himself has rescued you from hell, then of course you would want others around you to not only be saved, but to also experience and know Him as well.

Don't think about the risk so much as the great opportunity you have to be a bridge for others to experience God almighty. Don't think so much about what could go wrong; instead ask God to fill you with faith to share. Don't be one that wishes they had stepped out more.

By: Christy Wimber [modified] From the web:

http://www1.cbn.com/power-faith

We are NOT saved by works; we are saved by grace through faith to <u>do</u> good works.

Ref: Eph. 2:8; James 2:14-26



is powerful in when in ACTION! Q: Have you shared your faith and the Good News of Christian Salvation with someone during the past week?

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