

FIRST STEPS WITH JESUS

Lesson 11: LIVING BY FAITH

Purpose: As Christians God has called us to live a life of faith, to live by faith. In this lesson we will learn what faith is, how faith comes, and how we use our faith.

Main Verse: Romans 1:16-17 - 16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. 17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith." NKJV

In Romans 1:17 God is telling us He wants us to live by faith and that every step should be a step of faith. As we study the principles in this lesson we will begin to learn how to live by faith. As we live by faith we can use our faith to receive from God and overcome in life.

I. WHAT FAITH IS.

A. The Bible Definition of Faith:

1. **Hebrews 11:1** - 11 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. NKJV

a. Faith gives substance to our hopes.

b. Faith is evidence inside our heart that what we do not see is real and ours.

2. **Mark 10:46-52** - Jesus Heals Blind Bartimaeus

46 Now they came to Jericho. As He went out of Jericho with His disciples and a great multitude, blind Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus, sat by the road begging. 47 And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" 48 Then many warned him to be quiet; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" 49 So Jesus stood still and commanded him to be called. Then they called the blind man, saying to him, "Be of good cheer. Rise, He is calling you." 50 And throwing aside his garment, he rose and came to Jesus. 51 So Jesus answered and said to him, "What do you want Me to do for you?" The blind man said to Him, "Rabboni, that I may receive my sight." 52 Then Jesus said to him, "**Go your way; your faith has made you well.**" And immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus on the road. NKJV

a. His faith gave substance to what he hoped for.

B. Faith is how we receive all that God give us.

1. **Hebrews 6:12** - 12 that you do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises. NKJV

C. By Faith in God all things are possible.

1. **Mark 9:23** - 23 Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes." NKJV

D. By Faith you can overcome all that is in the world.

1. **1 John 5:4** - 4 For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world — our faith. NKJV
2. By faith you can overcome attacks of the Devil, challenges in life, problems, all that is in the world that is not the will of God.

II. HOW FAITH COMES?

A. We have seen what faith is. So the question is how can we have this kind of faith?

B. By hearing the word of God.

1. **Romans 10:17** - 17 So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. NKJV

C. Faith to be saved comes from hearing.

1. **Romans 10:13-14** - 13 For "whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." 14 How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? NKJV

D. Faith to be healed comes from hearing.

1. **Mark 5:25-34** - 25 Now a certain woman had a flow of blood for twelve years, 26 and had suffered many things from many physicians. She had spent all that she had and was no better, but rather grew worse. 27 When she heard about Jesus, she came behind Him in the crowd and touched His garment. 28 For she said, "If only I may touch His clothes, I shall be made well." 29 Immediately the fountain of her blood was dried up, and she felt in her body that she was healed of the affliction. 30 And Jesus, immediately knowing in Himself that power had gone out of Him, turned around in the crowd and said, "Who touched My clothes?" 31 But His disciples said to Him, "You see the multitude thronging You, and You say, 'Who touched Me?'" 32 And He looked around to see her who had done this thing. 33 But the woman, fearing and trembling, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell down before Him and told Him the whole truth. 34 And He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace, and be healed of your affliction." NKJV

E. Find scripture that promises what you need and begin to meditate on those verses. Hearing the Word will cause faith to come.

III. HOW DO WE USE OUR FAITH?

A. It is not enough to have faith in our hearts, but the faith in our heart must be released.

1. **James 2:17, 22** - 17 Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.....22 Do you see that faith was working together with his works, and by works faith was made perfect? NKJV

B. The primary way we use our faith is by speaking what we believe in our heart.

1. This is how you received salvation.
 - a. **Romans 10:9-10** - 9 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. NKJV
2. **Mark 11:23** - 23 For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. NKJV

3. **Mark 5:25-34** – Speaking and acting as the women with the issue of blood.

IV. THE WORD OF GOD AND FAITH

A. The Importance of God's Word

1. The Word of God is the key to living a life of faith. Trying to live a life of faith without living in God's Word is like trying to drive a car without any fuel.
2. **Romans 10:8** - 8 But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach): NKJV
 - a. The Bible says the Word of God needs to be in both our mouth and in our heart.
 - b. We must feed on God's Word (put it in our heart) and speak God's Word (put it in our mouth).
3. If we put God's Word in our mouth and heart every day then the result will be living a life of faith.

Conclusion: God has a great plan for your life. He has promised you many things. We live that life by faith. This kind of faith comes from the Word of God. The choice is yours. Decide to spend time in God's Word everyday and live by faith, receive what God has for you, and overcome in life.

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Comprehensive Test: For instructor with answers

1. What is faith?
 1. Faith is the substance of things hoped for.
 2. Faith is the evidence of things not seen.
2. How do we receive what God gives us?
 1. By faith
3. How do we receive faith?
 1. By hearing and hearing the Word of God.
4. Why must we use our faith?
 1. Faith without works is dead
5. What happens to our faith when we use our faith?
 1. Our faith becomes complete
6. What are the two ways we use our faith?
 1. By speaking what we believe in our heart
 2. By actions that correspond with our faith and acting on the Word.

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Comprehensive Test: For instructor with answers

1. What is faith?

1. _____

2. _____

2. How do we receive what God gives us?

1. _____

3. How do we receive faith?

1. _____

4. Why must we use our faith?

1. _____

5. What happens to our faith when we use our faith?

1. _____

6. What are the two ways we use our faith?

1. _____

2. _____