

First Baptist Poinciana
Dr. Wayne Harrell, Senior Pastor

“Defining Faith”

Key Scriptures in Today’s Message:

Matthew 9:28-30

Romans 1:16-17

Hebrews 11:5-7

Luke 17:5-6

Habakkuk 2:4

1. What is Faith?

When New Testament authors write of faith in God, they use the Greek word _____, which means a _____

The Hebrew word for faith is _____ (steadfastness or trustworthy) and has a root to the Hebrew word amon (_____ & _____), thus emphasizing a firmness and absolute trust in something or someone.

NOTES:

2. Faith Pleases God. Habakkuk 2:4, Romans 1:17, Hebrews 11:6

Paul’s quotation is after he has described humanity’s sinfulness and the availability of the gospel to anyone who places faith in Jesus.

It is _____ that brings the dead to life in Christ.

Hebrews Chapter 11 - known as the “Faith Chapter” - the writer stresses that faith is central to _____.

Ephesians 2:8 - It is by grace that we are saved (undeserving forgiveness) but that grace is delivered to us through our faith in God to deliver the gift which Christ provided through His death, burial, and resurrection.

Ultimately, pleasing God rests in our placing full trust and confidence in Him.

3. Faith Emphasizes Trust.

“You only have faith when you have learned to trust God, trust his Word, and treat him as a partner in your life whom you’re trusting in the way that you would treat a spouse, a good friend, any human who has given you promises and on whom you rely to keep those promises once given.” - J.I. Packer

Faith is measured by trust, and trust in direct relation to faith.
It is abandoning our own ideologies and understanding and Trusting God.

Proverbs 3:5-6 - *Trust in the Lord with all your heart (have faith in God) and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will direct your path.*

Your faith is directly linked to the trust you have and exhibit in God. *Faith is living in such a way that others know that you believe what you say you believe when it comes to your faith in God.*

4. Faith Leads to Seeing the Power of God in Our Lives.

Jesus continually stated that if we “have faith,” we will see the power of God move in our lives. **(Matthew 9:28-30)**

- “Do you believe that I (Jesus) am able to do this?”
- Faith is not content to be private but must be displayed and proclaimed publicly. It is why we must make a public profession of faith.

The increase of faith and what it takes **(Luke 17:5-6)**

1. Faith the size of a _____ accomplishes much
2. All seeds are intended to _____ - the seed is a starting point.

We do not have a transactional faith - nor a proportional faith.

1. Our faith is rewarded because we believe, not in the proportion of our belief (faith) - transactional faith. I have this much faith, so I receive this much blessing, healing, etc.

rather it is “since you believe your request is granted”

5. The “Where” Matters.

We sometimes place faith (trust) in something other than God.

Trust and firm assurance that is biblical faith can only be placed in the living God.

This means we trust him to accomplish **all** that concerns us and **our salvation** - which is the first and foremost step in our trust and faith in God.