



Faith





Core Truth: God gives FAITHFULNESS!

Scripture: “His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’ Matthew 25:21

faithfulne 

Faithfulness occurs when someone acts in full obedience, trust, and belief in God that He will do what He says He will do. This sometimes involves believing in things that you may not be able to see or you may not have all the answers to.

The verse comes from a story in Matthew where the master gives his servants talents to look after while he is away. Two of the servants took what their master gave them and made more with it. One of the servants buried the talent and did nothing and it made the master angry. To the servants that made more of their portion the master was pleased. “Well done, my good and faithful servant.” In life, God is our Master and we are to be faithful servants. This story tells us what happens when someone is a good and faithful servant- they are rewarded. If we are faithful to God with a few things, He will trust us with many things and we will be able to share in our Master’s (God’s) happiness.

Faithfulness is provided to us by the Holy Spirit. Through the Holy Spirit, we can have the kind of faithfulness that the Master desires in Matthew 25.

God gives FAITHFULNESS!

Let's Talk About It!

How has God shown us faithfulness?

- He does what He says He will do.
- His plans always come to be.
- He listens when we talk to Him.

Apply It!

How can we put our faith in God?

- Trust that He is Lord and Savior of your life.
- Know that He will do what He says He will.
- Believe that He hears you when you talk to Him.

Prayer

Dear God,

Thank You for Your faithfulness to us and showing us what it means to be faithful. Lord, help us be faithful servants to You. Help our unbelief and build up our faithfulness in You for Your glory. We love You, Lord.

In Jesus' name,

Amen

~ Rebecca Robertson Holloway



Faith
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The Faithfulness of God

It isn't hard to see God,
He's everywhere we go.
He's the beauty of a summer morn,
The softness of falling snow.
He's the glory of a sunset,
The shyness of a doe.
It isn't hard to see God,
He's everywhere we go.



And when I think of all
That He's sacrificed for me,
Why, He's even given up His Son
To die on Calvary.
I know I don't deserve it,
Yet I'll always try to be
A testament of thankfulness
And loving loyalty.

~ Irene Gudgeon

(Written when she was 16)

Faith

A woman suffering from bleeding for 12 years, who had spent all she had on doctors yet could not be healed by any, approached from behind and touched the tassel of His robe. Instantly her bleeding stopped. "Who touched Me?" Jesus asked. When they all denied it, Peter said, "Master, the crowds are hemming You in and pressing against You." "Somebody did touch Me," said Jesus. "I know that power has gone out from Me." When the woman saw that she was discovered, she came trembling and fell down before Him. In the presence of all the people, she declared the reason she had touched Him and how she was instantly cured.

"Daughter," He said to her, "your faith has made you well. Go in peace."

Luke 8:43-48



Azulejos (blue tiles) on the side of a church
Porto, Portugal

Can we add your name?

*Now faith is the reality of what is hoped for,
the proof of what is not seen.*

For by it our ancestors were approved.

*By faith we understand that the universe was created
by the word of God, so that what is seen has been
made from things that are not visible.*

Hebrews 11:1-3

Hebrews 11:4-32*

By faith Abel offered to God a better sacrifice than Cain...

By faith Enoch...did not experience death...

By faith Noah...built an ark...

By faith Abraham obeyed...he went out, not knowing where he was going...

By faith Sarah...received power to conceive...

By faith Abraham...offered up Isaac...he considered God to be able to raise someone from the dead...

By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau...

By faith Jacob...blessed each of the sons of Joseph, and, he worshiped...

By faith Joseph...mentioned the exodus of the sons of Israel...

By faith Moses...was hidden by his parents...

By faith Moses...chose to suffer with the people of God...instituted the Passover...

By faith they [the children of Israel] crossed the Red Sea...the walls of Jericho fell...

By faith Rahab the prostitute received the spies in peace...

And More.....

Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David and Samuel and the prophets, vs.33-39 who by faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched the raging of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, gained strength after being weak, became mighty in battle, and put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead raised to life again. Some men were tortured, not accepting release, so that they might gain a better resurrection, and others experienced mockings and scourgings, as well as bonds and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawed in two, they died by the sword, they wandered about in sheepskins, in goatskins, destitute, afflicted, and mistreated. The world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts, mountains, caves, and holes in the ground. All these were approved through their faith.

*Now without faith it is impossible to please God,
for the one who draws near to Him must believe
that He exists and rewards those who seek Him.*

Hebrews 11:6

*Please read all of Hebrews 11 to get the full passage (and full message) of



“Nothing so faithful as a silver faced pup.”
Heather Sugg



Calli Smith
PHOTOGRAPHY

*With the faithful
You prove Yourself faithful;
2 Samuel 22:26*



Cultivate Faithfulness

Dwell in the land and cultivate faithfulness.

Delight yourself in the LORD
and He will give you the desires of your heart.

Commit your way to the LORD,
Trust also in Him and He will do it.
He will bring forth your righteousness as the light
And your judgement as the noonday.

Psalm 37:3-6

When we choose to follow Christ, faithfulness does not magically appear. Oh yes, there is a certain measure of faith that is granted to us by the generosity and grace of our good and loving God through Jesus Christ. But faithfulness is like the produce of the garden. It starts with the seed. Before the seed is placed in the ground, there is backbreaking dirty and exhausting labor put forth to prepare a place for the seed to grow. The weeds have to be cleared, rocks removed, hard packed earth broken up, and rich nutrients added to the soil.

In a healthy garden, there is ongoing work of cultivation that the seed will grow into a strong plant and bear fruit. If



care is not taken, the weeds will return and steal the precious nutrients from the soil and life giving sunlight. Heat and drought will stress the plants, but also make them stronger if they possess a good root system. Pests may come and attempt to destroy. They must be continually kept at bay. But if care is taken, the seed will grow into a thriving plant bearing much fruit.

Even before our profession of belief, God is preparing the soil of our heart to receive the seed of faith that will grow and thrive. He uses life experiences and others around us to do the labor. Once our faith is planted, he allows trials and tribulation to stress the roots of our faith eventually making it stronger. The cultivation of faithfulness is a lifelong process—at times arduous and painful, at others, effortless. In the mysterious balance between our labor to dwell, delight, commit, trust and God's hand to bring forth our righteousness, the fruit of the harvest is abundant and beautiful to behold.

~ Kristi Huang





Psalm 8:2

Calli Smith
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