

Back to Basics – Believe and You Shall Receive

Overview: Faith is our connection to all that God has done for us through Jesus. Faith is expressed through our believing – acting on the faith in our hearts. Jesus asked this simple question to Martha after making a profound statement; “do you believe this?” (John 11:26) Believing is the actions of the faith in our hearts. *Hear the Word* → *hope is born* → *faith takes root* → *faith expressed through believing*.

Faith – pistis (G4102) noun - *persuasion*, that is, *credence*; moral *conviction* (of *religious* truth, or the truthfulness of God or a religious teacher), especially *reliance* upon Christ for salvation; abstractly *constancy* in such profession; by extension the system of religious (Gospel) *truth* itself: - assurance, belief, believe, faith, fidelity.

Believe – pisteuo (G4100) verb - From G4102; to *have faith* (in, upon, or with respect to, a person or thing), that is, *credit*; by implication to *entrust* (especially one’s spiritual well-being to Christ): - believe (-r), commit (to trust), put in trust with.

A. The Key to the Prayer of Faith is Believing

1. Faith – expectation of the results.
 - a. Have faith in God. Mark 11:22
 - b. Faith is the assurance, the title deed of things hoped for. Heb 11:1(AMPC)
 - c. Faith is the evidence of things not seen. Heb 11:1
 - d. Faith is the leaning of the entire being on God (no plan B). Heb 6:12(AMPC)
2. Believing is the action of faith.
 - a. Believe the things he says without doubting in his heart. Mark 11:23
 - b. Believe that you have received when you pray. Mark 11:24
 - c. Abraham believed God, accounted as righteousness. Rom 4:3, 18-22
 - d. As thou has believed, so shall it be done unto you. Matt 8:13
 - e. All things are possible to them that believe. Mark 9:23

B. Believing Requires Actions

1. The devils also believe and tremble. James 2:19
2. Faith without works is dead, believing adds the works. James 2:17-26
3. Believe ye that I am able to do this? Matt 9:28
4. Believing the Word in your heart leads to complete salvation. Luke 8:12
5. Confess Jesus as Lord, believe in your heart. Romans 10:9-10
6. I believe, therefore I have spoken. 2 Cor 4:13
7. These signs shall follow them that believe. Mark 16:17
8. For we which have believed have entered his rest. Heb 3:7-12,18-19; 4:1-3

C. Overcoming Obstacles to Believing

1. Fear subverts your believing; do not fear, only believe. Mark 5:36
 - a. Let not your heart be troubled, believe in God, believe in me. John 14:1
2. Guilt and condemnation cause us to lose confidence (faith). 1 Jo 3:18-22
 - a. Confess your sins – forgiven and cleansed. 1 Jo 1:9
3. Because of your unbelief, if you had faith... Matt 17:20
 - a. They entered not into the rest because of their unbelief. Heb 4:6
 - b. Thomas and his unbelief. Be not faithless but believing. John 20:25,27-31
4. O thou of little faith, why did you doubt? Matt 14:31
 - a. If you have faith and doubt not. Matt 21:21

D. Standing in Faith (Spiritual Warfare)

1. What you do between the “Amen” and the “there it is.”
2. Stand, Withstand, Stand, Keep Standing. Eph 6:10-14
3. Engaging in Spiritual Warfare. Eph 6:15-17
 - a. Knowing who you are in Christ.
 - b. Knowing what you have in Christ.
 - c. Speaking what you know – The Sword of the Spirit.
4. Walk by faith, not by sight. 2 Cor. 5:7
5. Keep affirming God’s Word with your mouth. Titus 3:8
6. Keep studying God’s Word to renew your mind. Rom 12:2

Note: Mental assent produces wishful thinking. Heart belief (faith) produces actions and words.