February 26, 2012

FAITH: A Biblical Definition

Biblical Faith is trusting God enough to do what He says. Hebrews 11:6; John 13:17; James 2:20-26

Biblical Faith isn't what $\underline{\text{rescues}}$ us – it's what $\underline{\text{guides}}$ us. Proverbs 3:5-7; Hebrews 11:4-40

Biblical Faith doesn't just believe in God – it believes God. James 2:19; Ephesians 2:8-9; James 2:14-26; Romans 1:5

NEXT STEPS

This week's homework is focusing on the biblical definition of faith and the relationship of faith and obedience.

Biblical faith is "trusting God enough to do what He says." In John 4:43-54, we read about Jesus healing the son of a government official. In what ways do you see this definition of faith reflected in the official's response to Jesus?

Can you think of any examples in your life of when you trusted God enough to do what He said? What was the outcome?

FAITH: Faith Is Not

Biblical Faith is not the absence of doubt.

Biblical Faith is not believing a set of facts about Jesus.

Biblical Faith is not a powerful force that manipulates God.

Biblical Faith is not optimism.

FAITH: The Kind That Can Save Us

John 3:16 & 14:6/ John 13:17/ 1 John 2:3-5

Trusting Jesus enough to follow Him

Read James 2:14-26 & Ephesians 2:8-10, then answer the following questions in regard to the relationship between faith and works.

How does James 2:14-26 compare with Ephesians 2:8-10 regarding faith, salvation, and works?

If you had to explain to someone the relationship between faith and works in your own words, what would you say?

When we step over the line by putting our faith in Jesus and become a follower of His, a spiritual transformation happens. What do the following verses tell us about what happens as a result of that spiritual transformation?

2 Corinthians 5:17

Romans 5:1

Romans 8:1-2

Galatians 2:20

Is there one of the truths in these verses that you tend to forget? If so, what could you do to help you remember it?