

**"Faithful and True"**



The goal of faithfulness is not that we will do work for God, but that He will be free to do His work through us. God calls us to His service and places tremendous responsibilities on us. He expects no complaining on our part and offers no explanation on His part. God wants to use us as He used His Own Son. It is only a faithful person who truly believes that God sovereignly controls his circumstances. We take our circumstances for granted, saying God is in control, but not really believing it. We act as if the things that happen were completely controlled by people. To be faithful in every circumstance means that we have only one loyalty, or object

of our faith—the Lord Jesus Christ. God may cause our circumstances to suddenly fall apart, which may bring the realization of our unfaithfulness to Him for not recognizing that He had ordained the situation. We never saw what He was trying to accomplish, and that exact event will never be repeated in our life. This is where the test of our faithfulness comes. If we will just learn to worship God even during the difficult circumstances, He will change them for the better very quickly if He so chooses. God engineers circumstances to see what we will do. Will we be the children of our Father in heaven, or will we go back again to the meaner, common-sense attitude? Will we stake all and stand true to Him? **"Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life."** (Revelation 2:10) The crown of life means I shall see that my Lord has got the victory after all, even in me. Being faithful to Jesus Christ is the most difficult thing we try to do today. We will be faithful to our work, to serving others, or to anything else; just don't ask us to be faithful to Jesus Christ. Many Christians become very impatient when we talk about faithfulness to Jesus. Our Lord is dethroned more deliberately by Christian workers than by the world. We treat God as if He were a machine designed only to bless us, and we think of Jesus as just another one of the workers.

**AMEN/AMAN / FAITHFUL**

The Hebrew word for faithful is **Aman**, from which we get **"Amen."** Amen is talking about **"Faithful"** and anytime you want to say an **"Amen"** it would be okay by me. When you hear something from the Word of God and you know it is reliable then you say, "Amen, I agree with that!" That is faithful. That is reliable. You can depend on it. It is Jesus Christ, though, that is emphasized in the Bible as being Faithful. He is called a **"Merciful And Faithful High Priest"** in Hebrews 2:17. In Revelation 1:5 The **"Faithful and True Witness"** In Revelation 3:14 when He comes again in power and great glory at the Second Coming of Christ in Revelation 19, He has a name and it is called, **"Faithful and True."** He will be forever Faithful to you! **Now abide in Love and continue to grow in Faith.**

**FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT**



**"The Nine Graces"** or **"Fruit of the Spirit"** can be divided into three groups for ease of study and consideration. **Love, Joy, Peace** reflect **Our Relations To God.** **Patience, kindness, Goodness** can be seen in **Our Relations To Others.** **Faithfulness, Gentleness, Self-control** are **indicative of the regulation and conduct**

**"of our own individual Christian lives.** The Fruit we will explore in these sermon notes is the **Fruit of Faithfulness.** Faithfulness has two different meanings. If we mean the faithfulness of God or Jesus, it refers to; **"Steadfastness, Honesty, Firmness, And God's Utter Dependability Based On His Unchanging Character."** If we mean human faithfulness, **It Refers To Our Steady Allegiance To God And Our Trust In Him.** A **"Faithful"** person is **"Full Of Faith"**; a person believes in the reality of God as revealed in Scripture. **"For the Word of the LORD is Right and True; He is Faithful in all He does."** (Psalm 33:4)

**The Fruit Of Faithfulness Bears Witness To Jesus**

**"Faithfulness"** is created within us when we allow the Spirit to work in us. Not only does the Spirit induce us to be faithful, He explains why we should be faithful. John 16:13-14 says that the Spirit discloses Jesus' character to the world. **"When the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His Own, but will speak whatever He hears, and He will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify Me, because He will take what is Mine and declare it to you."** First John 5:6-7 says the Spirit testifies that Jesus is the Savior. **"This is the One Who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the One that testifies, for the Spirit is the Truth. There are three that testify:"**

**Faithfulness: "Trusting God"**

If we are full of faithfulness, we believe God; we trust that He always has our best interests at heart. We trust that we are ultimately safe. We believe that He loves us (John 3:16); **"For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him may not perish but may have eternal life."** He wants to be with us (John 14:2); **"In My Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?"** He is powerful enough to save us (John 14:6); **"Jesus said to him, "I Am the Way, and the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."** and He is working in us (Philippians 1:6); **"I am confident of this, that the One Who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ."** And we live with the confidence that we will receive God's promised blessings, even if we never see them in this lifetime. **"Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;"** (Proverbs 3:5)

The Bible has much more to say about faith and how important it is. In fact, it is so important that, without faith, we have no place with God, and it is impossible to please Him. (Hebrews 11:6). So what is the source to this faith?

**FAITH IS A GIFT FROM GOD**

"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— not the result of works, so that no one may boast." Ephesians 2:8-9 makes it clear that Faith is a gift from God, not because we deserve it, have earned it, or are worthy to have it. It is not from ourselves; it is from God. It is not obtained by our power or

our free will. Faith is simply given to us by God, along with His grace and mercy, according to His holy plan and purpose, and because of that, He gets all the glory.

"Apart from Me you can do nothing." John 15:5

**HOLY SPIRIT IS THE SUBSTANCE AND A GIFT**

The Holy Spirit is a substance. He is a real person, the Spirit of Christ, and a Person of the Trinity. He is given to every Born Again Believer. He is the foundation of our faith. Acts 2:38-39 Peter said to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of

your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself." 2 Corinthians 5:5 "Now He Who prepared us for this very purpose is God, Who gave to us the Spirit as a pledge."

**JESUS IS THE AUTHOR AND PERFECTER OF OUR FAITH**

It is important for us to understand that God in Christ is not only the Creator and Sustainer of our saving faith, but He is also the Sustainer of our daily walk and the finisher of our spiritual journey. (Hebrews 12:2) "Looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of

our faith, Who for the sake of the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken His seat at the right hand of the throne of God." Jesus is described as the Author and Perfecter, or Finisher, of our faith in Hebrews 12:2. An author is an originator or creator, as of a theory or plan. The Greek word translated "Author" in Hebrews 12:2 can also mean "Captain," "Chief Leader" or "Prince." This is a source of great comfort to believers, especially in times of doubt and spiritual struggles. Christ has created our faith and He will watch over it, care for it, and sustain it.

Philippians 1:6 "I am confident of this, that the One who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ."

**"Faith Is The Assurance Of Things Hoped For, The Conviction Of Things Not Seen." Hebrews 11:1**

So the first thing we learn about faith is that it is trusting in what isn't visible. It is trusting in what isn't received. It is trusting in what isn't experienced. It is trusting in something not yet manifest. Faith, belief, that's a noun, the Greek word *pistis*, it is a noun, it means Belief, Trust, Confidence, Faith. And I love the fact that he uses a noun because it emphasizes the settled reality of this. It is a commodity that is possessed. Certainly believing can be a verb, but we're talking here not about some act of faith but we're talking about the reality of a settled faith. It exists as a commodity. It is a gift of God, Ephesians 2:8 says, not of works. It comes from God. And when God gives this commodity of faith, it is the assurance of things hoped for. That's what it means to live by faith. It doesn't mean that we see something we want and bring it into existence. It means that we put our confidence in something not seen, convictions of things not seen. It is trusting God to preform His Word in you.

**GOD'S WORD IS A SUBSTANCE TO OUR FAITH**

Faith is so strong, it is the gift of God that allows us to listen and trust the Scriptures and in trusting the Scriptures, to trust the Gospel in the Scriptures and thus trust Christ as Savior. That's a package. I think we need to understand that. It wouldn't do any good to trust in Christ as your Savior unless you could trust the Scriptures for everything that its say about Him

being your Savior. God has given you the faith to believe in that revealed Word and everything you ever study in that Word and all the evidences that come around that Word indicate that it, in fact, is true. You not only have such substance to this hope, that you live against the grain of your flesh, you live against the grain of the world in His power.

**WALKING OUT OUR FAITH**

Everybody in the world is living a certain way and what are you trying to do? You're trying to live in a completely opposite way. You're like a person trying to fight your way through a massive crowd of millions of people who are all going one direction and you're going the other way. In this process you

may be trampled by the direction of your faith walk and you may be mistreated here and there. Sometimes is could feel like a collision course. Just to make it more complicated, you have a responsibility in the process of trying to work your way through this mass of humanity going in the opposite direction of grabbing them here and there and trying to turn them around, bring them to the saving knowledge of Christ. What power this faith has.

