

Lesson 1-4 Faith (I)

1. Do you want to be pleasing to God?

2. List 5 things you can do that are pleasing to God.

3. Read Hebrews 11:6 and restate it in your own words.

Hebrews 11:6 And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him. (ESV)

4. How does Hebrews 11:6 affect your answers in question number 2?

5. If the actions in question number 2 are not done in faith, are they pleasing to God?

6. Since faith is the only way to please God, we need to understand what it is. What is your definition of faith?

7. The Bible's definition of faith is found in Hebrews 11:1. This is a scripture you should memorize and meditate on often. Remember since faith is the only way to please God we must make this a top priority in our lives. Faith is the key to everything in our relationship to God and our spiritual growth.

Hebrews 11:1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

8. In order to understand something it helps to put it in your own words and write it down. Please put the Biblical definition of faith in your own words.

9. This is an extremely important teaching and a good time to use what we learned in lesson 2. It is the Holy Spirit's job to give us truth and teach us all things (John 14:26 and John 16:13). So, ask Him to teach you the truth about faith.

John 14:26 But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.
John 16:13 When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come.

10. Consider David who is a believer, he has prayed many times to be healed from his diabetes. He has had his pastor and other friends anoint him with oil and believe God for healing. After 30 years of fighting his diabetes, he lay on his death bed; he thanked God for his life and all the blessing he received from God; He thanked God that his name was written in the Lamb's book of Life; He even thanked God for his diabetes. Keeping the definition of faith in mind, how do his friends view this?

How does David view this?

How does God view this?

11. Faith is the substance of things hoped for and the evidence of things not seen. Do past experiences build faith?

12. If you observe a miracle from God, will that build your faith? Is seeing believing?

13. Moses and the children of Israel were given a promise to be delivered from Egypt and brought to a new land filled with milk and honey. They saw the plagues of Egypt and the defeat of Pharaoh. In the desert, they were provided with the manna and quail to eat; they were provided with water out of a rock. They had the pillar of fire to guide them at night and a pillar of cloud to guide them during the day. They heard the voice of God on the mountain and said to Moses: you go and speak to God for us and we will stay here. While Moses was on the mountain, they built a golden calf to be their god. After seeing all the miracles that God did for them, why did they not have any faith?

14. Agnes has decided that she can't be a believer unless she sees a miracle. Will seeing a miracle give her faith?

15. Read Math 15 :22-28.

Matthew 15:22 And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and was crying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely oppressed by a demon."

Matthew 15:23 But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying, "Send her away, for she is crying out after us."

Matthew 15:24 He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."

Matthew 15:25 But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me."

Matthew 15:26 And he answered, "It is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs."

Matthew 15:27 She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table."

Matthew 15:28 Then Jesus answered her, "O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire." And her daughter was healed instantly.

where did the woman get such understanding ?

16. Did she know who Jesus was?

17. Did she know the truth?

18. Did she have confidence in her understanding of truth ?

19. Do you speak to God like this woman did?

20. Jesus said to her "Great is your faith, let it be done to you as you want." would you like Jesus to say this to you?

21. Would you like to have your faith “great”? We will study this in lesson 1-5.

22. Memory Verse Hébreux. 11:1

Hebrews 11:1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

23. Conclusion: If you live by faith and not by sight, you will be pleasing to God.