

FAITH

Proverbs 3:5-6 NIV – Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

DESCRIPTION

Faith is what we do when we believe that God is real and true to His word. God's desire is for us to trust Him with our whole heart in every aspect of our lives. In fact, Jesus said that the only work God requires of us is to believe in the One that God sent.

It is not always easy to trust in a God we cannot see in favor of reliance on our own ideas, abilities, money, resources, or remedies for our situations and problems. Furthermore, our lives are multifaceted and while we may have great faith in one area we may be weak faith in another. This said, whatever we truly believe in and depend upon is revealed by the actions we take.

The practice of Faith is about trusting God with our lives, our situations, our relationships, until every facet of our being relies upon Christ alone.

TALK WITH GOD

In your life, what has been your experience of trusting God rather than your own understanding?

There is a saying that, "God helps those who help themselves." Do you believe this is true? Why or why not? What is God sharing with you about his?

Are there areas of life that you find it easier or more challenging to trust God? Talk to Him about this.

How is God inviting you trust Him more or in new areas of your life?

PRAYER

Father, I believe, help my unbelief. I want to trust you more and in more aspects of my life. Show me how to trust you more, and how to make reliance upon you my way of life. In Jesus' name, Amen.



PURPOSE:

To grow in faith and application of trusting God in our lives.

To increase in obedience and understanding of God's will and ways.

To identify and prune our lives of areas of faithlessness.

SPIRITUAL FRUIT:

Faith and faithfulness.

Repentance from self-reliance over trust in God.

Purified motives.

Reduced manipulation of situations (i.e. trying to control outcomes.)

Experience of God's ways and work on our behalf.

PRACTICE



1. Invite the Holy Spirit to highlight an aspect of your life in which God desires for you to walk in greater faith. Examples include:

Finances	Family
Work/Career	Marriage/Romance
Social/Friends/Fun	Health/Sickness
Location/Living Place	School/Education

2. As you move forward in faith in this area, commit to doing the following:

- Ask God what He wants you to do rather than telling Him what you want Him to do.
- Release back to God things you have initiated or are sustaining in your own strength. Allow God to prune you.
- Listen to God in prayer and do what He says.
- Place your faith in the power of God and not the wisdom of this world.

3. As you walk by faith in this area, take note of the following:

- What is your typical response when faced with an issue?
- In what ways might you be presuming you know what God's will is rather than asking Him?
- In what ways are you relying on your own abilities rather than trusting in God's ability on your behalf?
- In what ways are you trusting in other people's counsel rather than personal prayer and revelation from the Lord?
- In what ways do you need to let go and let God?
- What feelings come up in you as you begin to trust God?
- What doubts come up in you as you begin to trust God?
- How does the truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ dispel your doubt? How is God calling you to trust Him more?

4. Praise God for His faithfulness even as you grow in faith.

NOTES: _____

ADDITIONAL SCRIPTURES:

Hebrews 11:1, 6

James 2:17-18

Colossians 2:8

1 Corinthians
1:24, 2:5

Romans 1:16-17

Genesis 15:6

Habakkuk 2:4

John 6:29