

Attitude of Christians toward their Faith

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Faith

- A. Introduction to our Faith
- B. The ways to develop a greater Faith
- C. Examples of Faith
- D. The ways to strengthen your Faith
- E. Conclusion

A. Introduction to our Faith

Faith is the reliance and trust in God. This is the center of Christianity.

Hebrews 11:1 (NASB)

¹ Now faith is the assurance of *things* hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Hebrews 11:1 (CEV)

11 Faith makes us sure of what we hope for and gives us proof of what we cannot see. ² It was their faith that made our ancestors pleasing to God.

A. Introduction to our Faith

Hebrews 11:6 (NASB)

6 And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.

Hebrews 11:6 (CEV)

6 But without faith no one can please God. We must believe that God is real and that he rewards everyone who searches for him.

A. Introduction to our Faith

John 20: 19-29

John 20:27-29

27 Then He *said to Thomas, “Reach here with your finger, and see My hands; and reach here your hand and put it into My side; and do not be unbelieving, but believing.”

28 Thomas answered and said to Him, “My Lord and my God!”

29 Jesus *said to him, “Because you have seen Me, have you believed? Blessed *are* they who did not see, and *yet* believed.”

A. Introduction to our Faith

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Hebrews 11:1

¹ Now faith is the assurance of *things* hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Hebrews 11:6

⁶ And without faith it is impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that *He is* and *that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him*.

B. The ways to develop a greater Faith

1 John 4:4

⁴ You are from God, little children, and have overcome them; because greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world.

B. The ways to develop a greater Faith

Christians should believe and tell the world about:

1. The incarnation of Jesus Christ

Philippians 2:7-8

⁷ but emptied Himself, **taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men.**

⁸ **Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.**

B. The ways to develop a greater Faith

Christians should believe and tell the world about:

1. The incarnation of Jesus Christ

2 Peter 1: 4

4 For by these He has granted to us **His precious and magnificent promises**, so that by them you may become partakers of *the divine nature*, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust.

B. The ways to develop a greater Faith

Christians should believe and tell the world about:

2. The righteousness and sinlessness of Jesus Christ

Acts 3:14-15

¹⁴ "But you disowned the **Holy** and **Righteous One** and asked for a murderer to be granted to you,

¹⁵ but put to death the **Prince of life**, **the one whom God raised from the dead**, *a fact to which we are witnesses.*

Jesus (sinless) resisted Satan

Temptation of Jesus – Matt. 4: 1-11

B. The ways to develop a greater Faith

Christians should believe and tell the world about:

3. The death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ

Acts 26:23

²³ that the Christ was to suffer, *and* that by reason of *His* resurrection from the dead He would be the first to proclaim light both to the *Jewish* people and to the Gentiles."

B. The ways to develop a greater Faith

Christians should believe and tell the world about:

4. The ascension and exaltation of Jesus Christ

Acts 1:9-11

⁹ And after He had said these things, He was lifted up while they were looking on, and a cloud received Him out of their sight.

¹⁰ And as they were gazing intently into the sky while He was going, behold, two men in white clothing stood beside them.

¹¹ They also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven."

B. The ways to develop a greater Faith

1 John 5:4

4 For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.

1. With your mind – Believe

A. Many fail because of unbelief. They doubt God's Word, Will and His Work.

B. The ways to develop a greater Faith

B. Constantly thinking about God's Goodness, Mercy, Grace, Power and Love increases our faith.

- i. The person who is *born of God* overcomes the world.
- ii. The person who overcomes the world is the person who *believes* that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.
- iii. The victory that overcomes the world is our faith.

B. The ways to develop a greater Faith

2. With your eyes – See

A. Many lack faith because they look at the faults and failures of others. They see the bad, not the good.

B. We use our faith rightly when we keep our eyes on Jesus and seek the good in others.

B. The ways to develop a greater Faith

John 5:24

²⁴ "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life.

B. The ways to develop a greater Faith

3. With your ears – Hear

A. Many are weak in faith because they listen to worldly things, smut, and slander.

B. We use our faith properly by listening to what God has to say.

B. The ways to develop a greater Faith

Psalm 105:2

² Sing to Him, sing praises to Him; Speak of all His wonders.

4. With your voice – Speak

A. People talk about the weather, the news, sports and worldly news to their neighbors.

B. We use our faith by talking about the goodness of God and by witnessing to the lost about Jesus Christ.

B. The ways to develop a greater Faith

5. With your hands – Work

A. Many fail to develop their faith because they do so little for God. They live selfishly.

B. Just as work is important to our physical well-being, it is also necessary for our spiritual well-being.

B. The ways to develop a greater Faith

James 2:18

¹⁸ But someone may *well* say, "You have faith and I have works; show me your faith without the works, and I will show you my faith by my works."

Faith and works must compliment each other.

B. The ways to develop a greater Faith

2 Corinthians 5:6-7

⁶ Therefore, being always of good courage, and knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord—

⁷ for **we walk by faith, not by sight**—

B. The ways to develop a greater Faith

6. With your feet – Go

A. People are on the go—taking vacations, seeking pleasure far and near.

B. We use our faith by going for God—attending church services, attending Bible classes, helping the needy, and winning souls to Him.

B. The ways to develop a greater Faith

7. With your heart – Love

A. We live in a materialistic age. Many love pleasures and possessions more than God and their neighbor.

B. We reveal our faith by loving God and caring for others.

1 John 5:2

2 By this we know that **we love the children of God**, when **we love God and observe His commandments.**

B. The ways to develop a greater Faith

1 John 4:7

7 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

C. Examples of Faith

Hebrews 11:7

⁷ By faith Noah, being warned *by God* about things not yet seen, in reverence prepared an ark for the salvation of his household, by which he condemned the world, and became an heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.

C. Examples of Faith

Hebrews 11:17

¹⁷ By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was offering up his only begotten son;

Hebrews 11:29

²⁹ By faith they passed through the Red Sea as though *they were passing* through dry land; and the Egyptians, when they attempted it, were drowned.

C. Examples of Faith

Hebrews 12:1-2

¹ Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,

² fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

D. The ways to strengthen your Faith

1. Consider your Faith's – Superiority

A. Faith is the way to receive God.

Ephesians 2:8

⁸ For by grace you have been saved
through faith; and that not of yourselves,
it is the gift of God;

D. The ways to strengthen your Faith

1. Consider your Faith's – Superiority

B. Faith is the way we receive from God. He supplies our needs as we accept His gifts in faith.

Mark 11:22-24

²² And Jesus answered saying to them, "**Have faith in God.**

²³ "Truly I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be taken up and cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says is going to happen, it will be *granted* him.

²⁴ "Therefore I say to you, **all things for which you pray and ask, believe that you have received them, and they will be granted you.**

D. The ways to strengthen your Faith

Ephesians 6:16

¹⁶ in addition to all, taking up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.

D. The ways to strengthen your Faith

2. Cherish your Faith

A. It is a Privilege

- i. Faith cannot be purchased.
- ii. It cannot be earned.
- iii. It is God's free gift to His children.
- iv. It is our privilege because we belong to God.

B. Faith must be put to use.

- i. Faith without works is dead.

James 2:17

¹⁷ Even so faith, if it has no works, is dead, *being* by itself.

D. The ways to strengthen your Faith

3. Comprehend your Faith's – Power

A. Faith releases the omnipotent power of God.

B. Faith enables us to do “all things” through the strength Christ gives us.

Philippians 4:13

¹³ I can do all things **through Him who strengthens me.**

D. The ways to strengthen your Faith

3. Comprehend your Faith's – Power

C. Faith enables us to live victoriously and effectively for God.

1 John 5:4

4 For whatever is born of God
overcomes the world; and this is **the**
victory that has overcome the world—
our faith.

D. The ways to strengthen your Faith

4. Cultivate your Faith's – Endless Possibilities

- i. Faith's possibilities are inexhaustible. No task is too difficult, no problem is too great, no burden is too heavy for faith to handle.
- ii. Faith enables us to defeat Satan.
- iii. Faith unites the Christian with limitless possibilities.

Mark 11:22

²² And Jesus answered saying to them, "Have faith in God."

E. Conclusion

A. Bible definition

B. The ways to develop a greater Faith

1. With your mind – **Believe**
2. With your eyes – **See**
3. With your ears – **Hear**
4. With your voice – **Speak**
5. With your hands – **Work**
6. With your feet – **Go**
7. With your heart – **Love**

E. Conclusion

C. Model the examples of faithful people in the Bible to your Christian Life.

**Emulate Jesus, the author
and perfecter of faith, in your
Christian Life**

E. Conclusion

D. The ways to strengthen your Faith

1. Consider your Faith's – **Superiority**

2. Cherish your Faith – It is a **Privilege**

3. Comprehend your Faith's – **Power**

4. Cultivate your Faith's – **Endless**

Possibilities