



# Faith Lifestyle Series



## Part 1



# Discern the **Body** of Jesus Christ

## **THE BREAKING OF HIS BODY GRANTS US ACCESS**

### **John 19:34 NKJV**

**34** But one of the soldiers **pierced His side with a spear**, and immediately **blood and water** came out.

His body was broken when His side was pierced, and we were granted **access** to the life of God. (Blood and Water).

# Discern the **Blood** of Jesus Christ

## Life in the Blood & Sanctification through the water

### Leviticus 17:11 (NIV)

**11** For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you upon the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood that makes atonement for the soul.

### Ephesians 5:26 (NKJV)

**26** that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word,

The blood **redeemed us** and **redeemed** the **ground** upon which it spilled.

The water **sanctifies** and **cleanses** us; making us a better reflection of Christ.

# FAITH NUGGETS

- Mankind is not designed with the capacity to live in **faith and doubt** at the same time.
- Faith is belief in God's Word. The opposite of believe is unbelieve.
- The opposite of LOVE (Believe) is FEAR (Unbelieve). Both love and fear are **revealers** of faith or the absence thereof.
- Fear is an emotion that we are not obligated to act accordingly.
- Have **faith in God**, Jesus answered. **Mark 11:22 (NIV)**



# Faith Is Not

iii) **Faith is not where you fellowship.**

What is your faith?

iv) **Faith is not assumption.**

A thing that is accepted as true or as certain to happen,  
without proof.

# Faith Is Not

v) Faith is not something of the past.

Faith is...

vi) Faith is not your idea.

It predates our existence.



# Faith Is Not

ix) Faith is not reflected by drawing back.

x) Faith is not a quick fix.

Patience is required.

# What is Faith according to the Word?

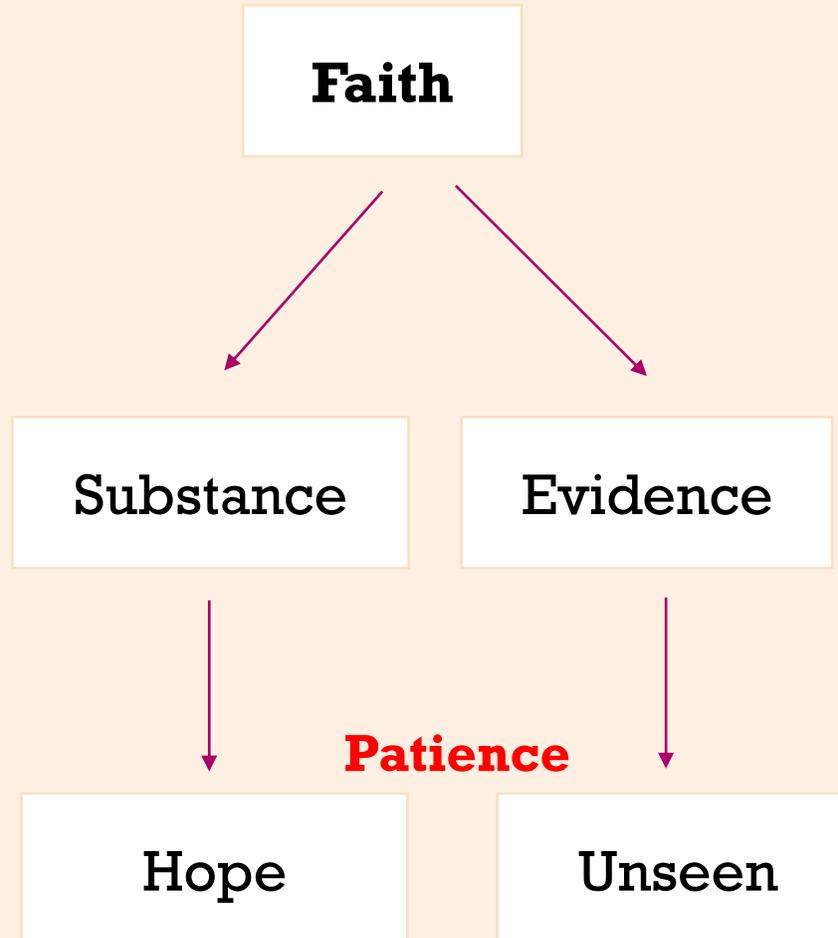
Hebrews 11:1 (NKJV)

Now faith is the **substance** of things hoped for, the **evidence** of things not seen.

**Romans 8:24-25 (KJV)**

**24** For we are saved by hope: **but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for?**

**25** But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with **patience** wait for it.



# God of Hope

## Romans 15:13 (NKJV)

**13** Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

- Our God is a God of hope and His purpose is to fuel us with joy and peace as we keep believing (exercising our faith).
- As we exercise our faith; patience, joy, and peace are all requirements (fruit of the Spirit). Faith thrives in the fruit of the Spirit.

# Faith

## Hebrews 11:1 (NKJV)

<sup>1</sup>Now faith is the **substance** of things hoped for, the **evidence** of things not seen.

## Hebrews 11:1 (YLT)

<sup>1</sup>And faith is of things hoped for **a confidence**, of matters not seen **a conviction...**

## Hebrews 11:1 (NET)

<sup>1</sup>Now faith is being **sure** of what we hope for, being **convinced** of what we do not see.

# Therefore,

- Faith is the Word of God. (**Gen 1:3; Psalm 33:6,9**).
- Faith is present. (**Heb 11:1**).
- Faith is active. (**Heb 4:12**).
- Faith is tangible. (**Heb 11:1**).
- Faith is a way of responding, living, etc. (lifestyle) for a kingdom citizen. (**Rom 1:17; Hab 2:4; Gal 3:11; Heb 10:38**).
- Faith gives substance to hope and the unseen. (**Heb 11:1**).
- Faith predates our existence.
- Faith is believing in God and His Word.

# TYPES OF FAITH IDENTIFIED IN SCRIPTURE.

1. Measure of Faith
2. Faithless (Unbelief)
3. Sincere Faith
4. Human Faith
5. Feign Faith
6. Presumptuous Faith

# 1) Measure of Faith

- Romans 12:3 (NIV)

**3** Because of the privilege and authority God has given me, I give each of you this warning: Don't think you are better than you really are. Be honest in your evaluation of yourselves, measuring yourselves by the faith God has given us.

- Romans 12:3 (NKJV)

**3** For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think *of himself* more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.

# Measure of Faith

1) Obtaining a measure of faith, is our responsibility.

## Romans 10:9-10 (NIV)

<sup>9</sup> If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

<sup>10</sup> For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.

2) Given to us by God as a gift.

## Ephesians 2:8-9 (NIV)

<sup>8</sup> For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—

<sup>9</sup> not by works, so that no one can boast.

# Measure of Faith

3) Every person has an equal measure of faith as a deposit from God at salvation.

4) We all develop our faith from one level to the other, from the measure of faith.

## Romans 1:16-17 (NKJV)

**16** For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.

**17** For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith."

-The more we behold the rightness, correctness, flawlessness, accuracy of God, etc.  
The more our measure of faith increases from level to level.

**NB:**

God does not change in the process; however, you do change.

# Faith Grows!

- 2 Thessalonians 1:3 (NIV)

**3** We ought always to thank God for you, brothers and sisters, and rightly so, because your faith is growing more and more, and the love all of you have for one another is increasing.

## Noteworthy!

i) When Jesus told us to have faith, He was specific about the kind of faith and whom we should have faith in.

Mark 11:22 (NLT)

**22** Then Jesus said to the disciples, "Have faith in God."

ii) Examine your faith.

We all have faith, however, is your faith, the faith of God?

## 2) Faithless (Unbelief)

- Mark 9:14-20 (NKJV)

**14** And when He came to the disciples, He saw a great multitude around them, and scribes disputing with them.

**15** Immediately, when they saw Him, all the people were greatly amazed, and running to *Him*, greeted Him.

**16** And He asked the scribes, “What are you discussing with them?”

**17** Then one of the crowd answered and said, “Teacher, I brought You my son, who has a mute spirit.

**18** And wherever it seizes him, it throws him down; he foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth, and becomes rigid. So I spoke to Your disciples, that they should cast it out, but they could not.”

**19** He answered him and said, “O faithless generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him to Me.”

**20** Then they brought him to Him. And when he saw Him, immediately the spirit convulsed him, and he fell on the ground and wallowed, foaming at the mouth.

# Faithless (Unbelief)

- John 20:27 (NLT)

**27** Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and look at my hands. Put your hand into the wound in my side. Don’t be faithless any longer. Believe!”

## Noteworthy:

In both scenarios, the disciples of Jesus mentioned “faithless” to His disciples.

# Some Characteristics of Unbelief

1) Being with Jesus (be a disciple of Jesus) and still living a lifestyle of unbelief. Evidenced by [Mark 9:19 \(NKJV\)](#)...How long shall I be with you?... and [John 20:27](#).

2) Fruitless (void of the blessing)

[John 20:29 \(NIV\)](#)

<sup>29</sup> Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

3) Lack of results. Lack of power.

[Mark 9:18b \(NKJV\)](#)

<sup>18</sup> So I spoke to Your disciples, that they should cast it out, but they could not.”

# Consequences of Unbelief

1) God takes no pleasure in unbelief.

Hebrews 10:38 (NKJV)

<sup>38</sup> Now the just shall live by faith; But if *anyone* draws back, My soul has no pleasure in him.”

2) It is impossible to please God.

Hebrews 11:6 (NKJV)

<sup>6</sup> But 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 diligently seek Him.

# 3) Sincere Faith

## 1 Timothy 1:5 (NIV)

**5** The goal of this command is love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.

## 2 Timothy 1:5 (KJV)

**5** When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also.

## 1 Peter 1:7 (NLT)

**7** These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world.

# Sincere Faith

- “Sincerity”, “genuineness”, “unfeigned” are all words that describe the character of our faith in God.
- Faith in God is typically genuine faith, however, it is possible to stray from the sincerity of our faith.

## 1 Timothy 1:5-7 (NKJV)

<sup>5</sup> Now the purpose of the commandment is love from a pure heart, *from* a good conscience, and *from sincere faith*,

<sup>6</sup> from which some, having strayed, have turned aside to idle talk,

<sup>7</sup> desiring to be teachers of the law, understanding neither what they say nor the things which they affirm.

# Some Characteristics of Sincere Faith

- 1) Sincere faith believes God and His Word; and speaks (acts accordingly).  
Characterized by [2 Corinthians 4:13 \(Darby Bible Translation\)](#)  
And having the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, I have believed, therefore have I spoken; we also believe, therefore also we speak;
- 2) It does not try to impress or exaggerate. It is childlike.  
It is not hypocritical.
- 3) It is from the Lord.
- 4) It does not have an opinion beyond the boundaries of the Word of God.

# Example of Sincere Faith

Exodus 14:15-17; 21-22 (NLT)

**15** Then the LORD said to Moses, “Why are you crying out to me? Tell the people to get moving!

**16** Pick up your staff and raise your hand over the sea. Divide the water so the Israelites can walk through the middle of the sea on dry ground.

**17** And I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians, and they will charge in after the Israelites. My great glory will be displayed through Pharaoh and his troops, his chariots, and his charioteers.

**21** Then Moses raised his hand over the sea, and the LORD opened up a path through the water with a strong east wind. The wind blew all that night, turning the seabed into dry land.

**22** So the people of Israel walked through the middle of the sea on dry ground, with walls of water on each side!

# Contemporary Examples of Idle talks

1) God helps those who help themselves.

Psalm 46:1 (NIV) – 1 God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

2) Let go and Let God – (taking no responsibility).

1 Timothy 6:12 (KJV) – 12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.

3) God is responsible for everything that happens, good or bad – ( a misrepresentation of the sovereignty of God).

4) It's between me and God. God knows my heart. Salvation is personal.

Matthew 5:16 (KJV) – 16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

5) Cleanliness is next to Godliness.

## 4) Human Faith

- Human faith is trust, based on informal reasoning not the word of God.

### Characteristics

- Human faith only believes what it can see, taste, hear, smell, or feel. Therefore, it's limited to the five senses.

# Examples of Human Faith

- Using natural human faith, we can sit in a chair we've never sat in and believe it will hold us up.
- We fly in airplanes when we don't fully understand how they work, and we don't know the pilot, but we trust that everything will be okay. That takes human faith.

What if I asked you to sit in a chair you couldn't see? Or what if the chair was missing one of its legs and was falling over?

You wouldn't sit in a chair like that with human faith. Would you fly in a plane if you could see that the engine was falling off or the tires were flat? Your senses would forbid it.

## 5) Feign (pretend) Faith

- To pretend is to speak and act so as to make it appear that something is the case when in fact it is not.
- It is not of God.

# Examples of Feign (pretend) Faith

- Exodus 3 (God calls Moses and assigns him)
- Exodus 4:29-31 (Moses speaks to the Elders)
- Exodus 5:1 (Moses speaks to Pharaoh)
- Exodus 14:15-16 (Moses receives an instruction from God)
- Exodus 14:21-22 (Moses implements the instruction)
- Exodus 14:23-28 (The mistake of the Egyptians and the consequences)
- Hebrews 11:29 (CEV)

<sup>29</sup> Because of their faith, the people walked through the Red Sea on dry land.  
But when the Egyptians tried to do it, they were drowned.

# Noteworthy points of Feign (pretend) Faith

- 1) Those with feign faith depend on the faith of others yet produce a contrary result or no result (and wonder why).

## Hebrews 11:29 (CEV)

- 29** Because of their faith, the people walked through the Red Sea on dry land. But when the Egyptians tried to do it, they were drowned.

- 2) Those with feign faith are lazy to seek God for themselves and receive a personal word for themselves.

# Genesis 19:15-18 (NKJV)

- 15** When the morning dawned, the angels urged Lot to hurry, saying, “Arise, take your wife and your two daughters who are here, lest you be consumed in the punishment of the city.”
- 16** And while he lingered, the men took hold of his hand, his wife’s hand, and the hands of his two daughters, the LORD being merciful to him, and they brought him out and set him outside the city.
- 17** So it came to pass, when they had brought them outside, that he said, “Escape for your life! Do not look behind you nor stay anywhere in the plain. Escape to the mountains, lest you be destroyed.”
- 18** Then Lot said to them, “Please, no, my lords!

## Genesis 19:19-20 (NKJV)

**19** Indeed now, your servant has found favor in your sight, and you have increased your mercy which you have shown me by saving my life; but I cannot escape to the mountains, lest some evil overtake me and I die.

**20** See now, this city *is* near *enough* to flee to, and it *is* a little one; please let me escape there (*is* it not a little one?) and my soul shall live.”

## Genesis 19:21-22 (MSG)

- **21-22** “All right, Lot. If you insist. I’ll let you have your way. And I won’t stamp out the town you’ve spotted. But hurry up. Run for it! I can’t do anything until you get there.” That’s why the town was called Zoar, that is, Smalltown.

# Noteworthy points of Feign (pretend) Faith

3) Feign faith is demonstrated through

i) Bargain the word we receive from the Lord, to suit our desires.

Genesis 19:18-19

ii) Insisting on our own ways. Then we act accordingly and face the consequences.

Genesis 19:20-22; 30-38

iii) Prefer convenience over sacrifice.

Genesis 19:20

# How to avoid Feign (pretend) Faith

- In order not to function with feign faith, learn to hear God for yourself as much as possible. Then do exactly what He tells you to do and say what He tells you to say.

## John 5:19 (NIV)

**19** Jesus gave them this answer: "Very truly I tell you, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does.

## John 12:49 (NIV)

**49** For I did not speak on my own, but the Father who sent me commanded me to say all that I have spoken.

- Avoid imitating others just for the sake of it.  
You will most likely not produce their result or any good result at all.

# 6) Presumptuous Faith

## Deuteronomy 1:6-8 (NIV)

**6** The LORD our God said to us at Horeb, “You have stayed long enough at this mountain.

**7** Break camp and advance into the hill country of the Amorites; go to all the neighboring peoples in the Arabah, in the mountains, in the western foothills, in the Negev and along the coast, to the land of the Canaanites and to Lebanon, as far as the great river, the Euphrates.

**8** See, I have given you this land. Go in and take possession of the land the LORD swore he would give to your fathers—to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob—and to their descendants after them.”

# Example of Presumptuous Faith

## Deuteronomy 1:40-42 (NKJV)

**40** But *as for* you, turn and take your journey into the wilderness by the Way of the Red Sea.'

**41** "Then you answered and said to me, 'We have sinned against the LORD; we will go up and fight, just as the LORD our God commanded us.' And when everyone of you had girded on his weapons of war, you were ready to go up into the mountain.

**42** "And the LORD said to me, 'Tell them, "Do not go up nor fight, for I *am* not among you; lest you be defeated before your enemies." '

# Example of Presumptuous Faith

## Deuteronomy 1:43-45 (NKJV)

**43** So I spoke to you; yet you would not listen, but rebelled against the command of the LORD, and presumptuously went up into the mountain.

**44** And the Amorites who dwelt in that mountain came out against you and chased you as bees do, and drove you back from Seir to Hormah.

**45** Then you returned and wept before the LORD, but the LORD would not listen to your voice nor give ear to you.

# Characteristics of Presumptuous Faith

- Is not from the Lord.
- Identified by arrogance (having or revealing an exaggerated sense of one's own importance or abilities).
- Identified by defiance (open resistance; bold disobedience).
- Identified by overconfidence.
- It is dependent on what the Lord said; not what He is saying.

## Luke 18:8 (CEV)

- **8** He will surely hurry and help them. But when the Son of Man comes, will he find on this earth anyone with faith?



# Learn to hear HIM for yourself!!

## John 4:41-42 (CEV)

- **41** Many more Samaritans put their faith in Jesus because of what they heard him say.
- **42** They told the woman, “We no longer have faith in Jesus just because of what you told us. We have heard him ourselves, and we are certain that he is the Savior of the world!”

## The Outgivers Ministries (TOMS)

**Website:** [www.toms-lifestyle.org](http://www.toms-lifestyle.org)

**YouTube Page:** The Outgivers Ministries

**Blog:** [www.outgivers.blogspot.com](http://www.outgivers.blogspot.com)

**Facebook page:** [www.facebook.com/aboundinchrist](http://www.facebook.com/aboundinchrist)

**Email:** [info@toms-lifestyle.org](mailto:info@toms-lifestyle.org)

**Address:** P.O. Box 86362 Gaithersburg, MD 20886

**Phone #:** 1.844.762.3332

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