

Lesson #10 The Question of Faith

Opening Shot:

Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things unseen. It is not a mushy sentimental feeling or wishful thinking. It is real and solid and it rests on things that are even more real and solid. Without faith it is impossible to please God.

Introduction to Biblical Truths:

Ask Me No Questions/ I'll Tell You No Lies:

- 1.) What is faith? And why do I need to have it?
- 2.) I'm still trying to figure out if I believe... How are other people so sure?
- 3.) How do we know that our faith is the right one?
- 4.) What can I do or what can I think about to help my faith grow stronger?

We've Got Questions/ God's Got Answers:

- 1.) **Hebrews 11:1-2** *Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain if what we do not see. This is what the ancients were commended for.* **Hebrews 11:6** *6 And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.*
- 2.) Others before us have tested God's promises and found God to be faithful and found that all of his precepts are trustworthy! (*Precept is defined as "a rule, instruction or principle that guides somebody's actions, especially one that guides moral behavior" also it is "a warrant or writ that is issued by a legal authority."*) **Psalm 119:140** *Your promises have been thoroughly tested, and your servant loves them.* **Read all of Psalm 111** (particularly v. 7) *The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy.* **Deut 32:3-4** *I will proclaim the name of the LORD. Oh, praise the greatness of our God! He is the Rock, his works are perfect, and all his ways are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is he.* **1 Corinthians 1:9** *God who has called you into fellowship with his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, is faithful.*
- 3.) **Read all of Isaiah 45:18-25.** *v18 For this is what the LORD says—he who created the heavens, he is God; he who fashioned and made the earth, he founded it; he did not create it to be empty but formed it to be inhabited—he says: "I am the LORD, and there is no other.*
- 4.) **Romans 10:17** *Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.* Once in **Luke 17:5-6** Jesus' disciples said to Him "Increase our faith" and He replied "If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it will obey you." Therefore, it is not necessary for us to wait to have "more faith" before we start acting in faith.

Parting Shot:

We may wonder if our faith is "big" enough. Our faith may seem small, but our God is very BIG! We can believe in the One who says "I am the LORD, and there is no other."

