

The Spiritual Principle of Faith



Hebrews 11:1-6

- The Spiritual Principle of Faith is “God’s plan for us to please Him.”
 - Purpose: this principle will produce internal growth and maturity.
 - Goal: To keep us from being barren (idle) and unfruitful (unproductive).
 - Objective: to teach us how to live a life that is pleasing to the Lord Jesus Christ.
- Lessons to teach: (1) What is Faith? (2) Four Facts About Faith (3) The Just Shall Live by Faith (4) Faith on Trial

What is Faith?

Hebrews 11:1-6

- There are many believers who do not understand what faith is and how it works.
 - Our personal faith was consumed at the salvation of our soul (1 Pet. 1:9).
 - The more we know about our faith, the more successful we will be in our Christian walk (Gal. 2:20).
 - Hebrews 11:1 is not a definition of faith, but a description of what faith does and how it works.
- Some definitions of faith:
- Faith is the confidence we have in the testimony of God and our willingness to stand upon it even when we cannot see or understand what God is doing.
 - Faith is confident obedience to God’s Word in spite of circumstances and consequences.
 - Faith is acting on the Word of God.
 - Faith is having confidence in what God has said.
1. Faith operates simply: God speaks, and we hear His Word.
- The unsaved world does not understand true Biblical faith.

- The world fails to realize that faith is only as good as its object, and the object of our faith is God.
2. There are three words in Hebrews 11:1-3 that summarize what true Biblical faith is: substance, evidence, and witness.
 - A. The word translated “substance” means literally “to stand under, to support.”
 - B. The word “evidence” simply means “conviction.”
 - C. The word “witness” means evidence or proof.
 - The writer of Hebrews made it clear that faith is a very practical thing (Heb. 11:3).
3. It is impossible to please God without faith.
 - A. He must believe in God – that God is – that God exists.
 - B. He must believe that God rewards those who earnestly seek Him.
 - C. We must diligently seek God and earnestly desire His presence, nearness, and grace.