

## LIFE CHANGING STORIES FROM THE BIBLE

### “FAITH”

The Bible tells us that without faith it is impossible to please God. Impossible, means impossible. But what if I do lots of kind and good things? It is still true; if you haven't got faith you cannot please God.

Hebrews 11:6 says, “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.”

To have faith you must believe God exists. If you doubt that God exists then earnestly seek to find out. Notice it says, “Earnestly,” not half-heartedly. Then God will reward you by revealing himself to you. He will inwardly convince you of his reality. Just like it says in--

Jeremiah 29:13, 14. “You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you, declares the Lord.”

If you have doubts then you should make it the main business of your life to find out the truth. If God is true then he is more important than anyone else or anything else, so let's not play around with God, let's find out!

So what is faith? Hebrews 11:1 says, “Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.” The word hope in the NT is not, “I hope something is going to happen.” It means, “I am confident and sure that this thing will happen.” Even though we don't see it now, we have an inward certainty, given to us by God that it will happen. That is faith.

How do we get that kind of faith? Romans 10:17. “Faith comes through hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.” Or the word of God. The word of Christ and the word of God are one.

It works like this. We hear the word of God spoken or we hear it in our minds as we read it and the word of God creates faith in our hearts. We find ourselves believing and acting on God's Word. A classic example of the hearing of the word creating faith in a heart is found in Acts 14:8-10. “In Lystra there sat a man crippled in his feet, who was lame from birth and had never walked. He listened to Paul as he was speaking. Paul looked directly at him, saw that he had faith to be healed and called out, “Stand up on your feet!” At that, the man jumped up and began to walk.”

The crippled man was hearing the Word of God spoken by Paul. It created faith in his heart to be healed. Paul recognized this and called on the man to act out his faith, which he did and was healed. In the same way, faith could have been created in his heart to be saved, receive forgiveness of sins and everlasting life, or faith to receive power to live a Christian life, or some other need.

Some people find it hard to receive faith because they struggle with what they have been taught about science and evolution etc. It is a huge hurdle to get over in their mind because science seems to contradict what the bible teaches. Science has discovered many truths and brought much benefit to the human race but science doesn't want to admit God. But a day will come when science will have to admit God. Science has knowledge in part, but God has all knowledge. Science, having knowledge in part, fills in gaps with suppositions which are not absolutely proven.

Having said that, there are many scientists who do believe in God. In the end it all has to come down to faith. Did God create the world and the human race etc or did something apart from God happen. Listen to what Hebrews 11:3 says, "By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that, what is seen was not made out of what is visible." The invisible God spoke into existence the created universe. How did he do that?

Even if God explained it to us we wouldn't understand, even the world's top scientists wouldn't understand. Our peanut brains could never comprehend the vastness of God and his ways. The Bible says his ways are past finding out. So when science seems to contradict the Bible, remember science is still learning and is liable to come to wrong conclusions. God already knows everything and makes no mistakes.

Imagine a man with the greatest brain in the world trying to explain to his two year old son the vastness of the knowledge he has acquired over many years. He would have to use very simple words and only share a tiny fraction of the vastness of that knowledge if the boy was to understand anything at all. So God simplified it for us and said, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." Then "God said and it was." "God said and it was" "God said and it was."

In the end we all end up in the hands of God, he is impossible to escape, and it is impossible to please him without faith.

**IN THE  
BEGINNING  
GOD**

**AND GOD SAID---**



**FAITH IS CREATED IN THE HEART BY  
HEARING THE WORD OF GOD.**

**ROMANS 10:17**

**JUST AS THE UNIVERSE WAS BY THE  
SPOKEN WORD OF GOD. GENESIS 1**

**FRANK HUTCHINSON**

