

**Faith Number Four**

**Lesson Number 8**

The Bible gives us a complete definition of faith!

**Hebrews 11:1 (KJV)**
1  **Now faith is** the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

I have told you that I am convinced that what **most** Christians **consider to be faith is only hope!**

A Christian can be extremely strong in their HOPE and know absolutely nothing about having FAITH in God! They haven’t learned how to move from HOPE to FAITH!

**CONCERNING HEALING:**

**A Christian who is strong in HOPE might say, “I believe with ALL my heart that God has the power to heal! I am praying and hoping He will heal me.”**

**The Christian, strong in faith, will say, “God’s Word proclaims ‘He sent His Word and healed me and delivered me from all my destructions!’ (Ps. 107:20) ‘Himself took my infirmities and bore my sickness!’ (Isa. 53:4). I am HEALED NOW in the Name of Jesus regardless of what my senses tell me because I walk by FAITH and not by SIGHT (2 Cor. 5:7)! “FAITH is my evidence and my proof that I AM HEALED!”**

**Mark 11:12 (ESV)**

From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force.

The person walking by faith reaches in with forcefulness and grabs what is rightly his by the horns and holds onto it and does NOT let go!

The person who hopes has no substance or evidence to hold onto!

To me, it is very sad sometimes. I will see someone who is diagnosed with a terrible disease and if you try to teach them about faith, all their tradition kicks in and they won’t receive the “Word of Faith!”

Their tradition really doesn’t give them much to hold on to and those people end up living with chronic sickness or die from their diseases. If your “tradition” hasn’t done anything for you, why wouldn’t you try what the Word truly teaches about faith?

**Mark 7:13 (KJV)**
13  Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition, which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye.

**2 Timothy 3:1-5 (KJV)**
1  This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.
2  For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,
3  Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,
4  Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;
5  **Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.**

**Romans 10:8 (KJV)**
8  But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, *even* in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the **word of faith**, which we preach;

We should trust in the Word of Faith which I teach to you every week in this class! I am proud to be “Word of Faith” because Paul was “Word of Faith!”

Don’t be tripped up by naysayers who will tell you that “Word of Faith” is bad.

I just had a very good friend of mine who used to work for First Orlando. She contacted me the other day and told me she has an opportunity to go to work for a large Word of Faith ministry. She said she had heard bad things about the ministry and wanted my opinion. I told her I felt like it was a wonderful opportunity for her and that she should go ahead and interview for the job.

You can find bad things written about anyone who is doing mighty things for God. Satan hates it when anyone is spreading God’s Word. I have seen bad things posted about Word of Faith ministers and those that aren’t Word of Faith. I recently saw a video that was posted to Youtube and it was against Billy Graham and his ministry. Well I think we can all agree that Billy Graham has done some pretty incredible things for the Kingdom of God.

I told my friend that she and her husband would be blessed by this man and his wife’s ministries and that she should listen to some of his teaching before passing judgement on him!

I have to give this same minister’s teaching some credit for my spiritual growth. There were several of us Christians who would pass cassette tape series around and we all grew from that!

You can find people complaining about him on Youtube and also the guy that started the Seminary I attended. Kenneth Hagin is known as the grandfather of the Word of Faith movement. I can tell you he was a great man of God. I don’t worry about any of the junk people write on the Internet. I know exactly what he taught. He was a “stickler” for the Word of God and believe me, if it couldn’t be backed up by scripture, he didn’t teach it.

I try to live by that same principle. If you will notice, I give scriptures to back up everything I teach.

I want to talk about faith a little more. It is SO IMPORTANT for us to REALLY understand what faith is and how we operate in it.

I will admit to you that faith is pretty much different from anything you’ve learned in this earth. The world does not operate by faith but God’s kingdom does.

**You have to accept faith like a child. You have to throw out all of your common sense and your education that has made you so SMART in this world and accept God’s Word for what it says.**

**Mark 10:13-31 (KJV)**
13  And they brought young children to him, that he should touch them: and *his* disciples rebuked those that brought *them*.
14  But when Jesus saw *it*, he was much displeased, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God.
15  Verily I say unto you, **Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein.**

As a part of this series on the Doctrines of Christ, we will look at the nine spiritual gifts listed in 1 Corinthians chapter 12 and go into detail about each one.

As a part of that study, we will talk about the gift of speaking in tongues and the gift of interpretation and the gift of prophecy. These three are the “vocal” spiritual gifts.

I grew up thinking “tongues” were of the devil. I am sure someone said that at some point, from the pulpit, for me to think that. I saw it once, or at least what I think may have been, at my grandparents’ church in Oklahoma. The first time I saw it for sure was at the church in my hometown where I attended years later. It scared me to death both times but it is not to be feared! It really is beautiful when the Holy Spirit moves!

Hope looks to the future but has no end. Take healing as an example.

Faith is NOW! Look at what Paul said in **Hebrews 11:1** again.

**There are four ways to get healed.**

1. **The natural healing process** that God built into our bodies and this can be helped along with medicine.
	1. Many times medicine has horrible side effects.
	2. Medicine is merely a “Practice!”
	3. It is not wrong to go to a physician if you are sick
		1. Realize that there can be consequences and this may not be the best way to be healied.
2. **A gift of healing**.
3. **A working of miracles**.
	1. **Number 2 & 3 are what most people are looking for.**

**1 Corinthians 12:9-10b (KJV)**
9   To another faith by the same Spirit; to another **the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;
10   To another the working of miracles;**

* 1. We will study the 9 gifts of the Spirit which are listed in 1 Cor. 12 at a later date.
1. **We can be healed by getting the Word in us** and building our faith.
	1. This one will always work where you don’t know if you will get Number 2 or Number 3.
	2. The Word of God **WILL ALWAYS WORK!**

**Psalm 107:20 (KJV)**
20  He sent his word, and healed ***(Grk. Rapa – to cure or to make thoroughly whole)*** them, and delivered *them* from their destructions ***(Grk. Shekheeth – Pitfalls, destructions)***.

**Jeremiah 1:12b (ESV)**

For I am watching ***(KJV “hasten” Grk. Shawkad – be alert, be sleepless, be on the lookout)*** over my Word to perform ***(Grk. Asa – to bring forth or to accomplish)*** it.

**Isaiah 55:11 (KJV)**
11  So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper *in the thing* whereto I sent it.

**Numbers 23:19 (KJV)**
19  God *is* not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: **hath he said, and shall he not do *it*?** or **hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?**

**Hebrews 11:1 (KJV)**
1  **Now faith is** the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

There is a **HUGE difference between HOPE and FAITH**.

**Hope always looks FORWARD to God moving. Faith looks at the fact that God IS MOVING NOW!**

**NOW FAITH IS!** The Bible says faith IS! It does **not say Faith will be, or faith might be.** **NOW FAITH IS!**

Jesus said we should **“believe we receive WHEN WE PRAY” In Mark 11:24.**

The only way we can do that is to receive what we pray for **BY FAITH** because **MOST times** when you pray, you are not going to see what you prayed for be manifest right at that moment!

Typically, it is going to take you being patient and trusting God that He did JUST WHAT HE SAID HE WOULD DO, HE ANSWERED YOU PRAYER WHEN YOU PRAYED.

THANK HIM FOR ANSWERING YOUR PRAYER EVEN IF YOU DON’T SEE IT!

**FAITH IS THE SUBSTANCE OF THINGS HOPED FOR**, **THE EVIDENCE** **OF THINGS NOT SEEN.**

To pray the prayer of faith,

1. Find what God’s Word says.
2. Meditate on the scriptures to build your faith.

**Romans 10:17 (KJV)**
17  So then faith *cometh* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

1. Pray the Word over your situation.
2. Believe that you receive WHEN YOU PRAY!

**Mark 11:24 (KJV)**
24  Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive *them*, and ye shall have *them*.

1. Faith is your EVIDENCE and SUBSTANCE until the thing for which you prayed is manifest.

**Hebrews 11:1 (KJV)**
1  Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

1. Have patience until God manifest the thing you prayed for. DO NOT GIVE UP BELIEVING!

**Hebrews 10:35-36 (KJV)**
35  Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward.
36  For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.

1. Praise God for answering your prayer even if you don’t see the answer yet.

Realize that FAITH SPEAKS! Speak to your mountain!

**Mark 11:22-24 (KJV)**
22  And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God.
23  For verily I say unto you, That whosoever **shall say** unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but **shall believe that those things which he saith** shall come to pass; he **shall have whatsoever he saith**.
24  Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive *them*, and ye shall have *them*.

Jesus is the Apostle and High Priest of our PROFESSION (CONFESSION)!

**Hebrews 3:1 (ESV)**

Therefore, holy brothers, you who **share in a heavenly calling**, consider Jesus, the **apostle** and **high priest** of our **confession,**

[**the Apostle and High Priest**] Among the Jews the high priest was also considered the Apostle of God. This no doubt is the meaning here to Israel. The Mosaic program had ended and there had been a change in the law and in the priesthood ([Heb. 7:11-17](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+7%3A11-17)).
Dake's Annotated Reference Bible: Containing the Old and New Testaments of the Authorized or King James Version Text.

What are you SPEAKING (CONFESSING, PROFESSING)?

Just this last week, it was announced that those who are not covered by health insurance will be penalize a minimum of over $600 per year or 2% of their annual income, whichever is the most.

**I spoke to a couple of friends of mine who do not have Obamacare or any other type of health insurance. One of my friends said, “Will you come and visit me in jail? My premiums for Obamacare are between $695 and $795 per month. I can’t pay it and I don’t qualify for any government assistance.”**

Are you speaking FAITH or are you speaking DOUBT and UNBELIEF into your life?

The High Priest’s job is to take your offering and to present it to God.

Jesus is seated on the right hand of the Father and He presents our CONFESSION to God!

**Stop speaking negativity, doubt and fear into your life and those around you! Those things are not what God has for you!**

**Mark 6:1-6 (KJV)**
1  And he went out from thence, and came into his own country; and his disciples follow him.
2  And when the sabbath day was come, he began to teach in the synagogue: and many hearing *him* were astonished, saying, From whence hath this *man* these things? and what wisdom *is* this which is given unto him, that even such mighty works are wrought by his hands?
3  Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, the brother of James, and Joses, and of Juda, and Simon? and are not his sisters here with us? And they were offended at him.
4  But Jesus said unto them, A prophet is not without honour, but in his own country, and among his own kin, and in his own house.
5  And he could there do no mighty work, save that he laid his hands upon a few sick folk, and healed *them*.
6  And he marvelled because of their unbelief. And he went round about the villages, teaching.

**The whole city of Nazareth was robbed of the blessing that God had for them because of Doubt!**

**Doubt and unbelief are thieves! If they will rob a city, they will rob individuals.**

It’s the easiest thing in the world to slip back into doubt and unbelief.

Faith is believing what the Word of God says and refusing to be afraid.

Fear will get you into doubt and doubt will cause you to give up on your faith!

**Where there is fear, there is a lack of faith!**

**Refuse to walk in fear. Speak to your mountain! Take your authority as a believer when Satan tries to bring doubt and fear. Command him to leave. Declare to the heavenly hosts and the demons and fallen angels and everyone around you that ARE believing God and you HAVE received your answer by faith!**