

WORKING DEFINITION OF FAITH

1. Faith is the substance of things hoped for
 - a. Greek word “hupostasis”
 - b. Made up of two words
 - i. Preposition “hupo” meaning “underneath”
 - ii. Word “histemi” meaning “to stand”
 - c. Significance
 - i. That which causes us to stand
 - ii. Translation “substance” by which we stand before God and in our life
2. Things hoped for
 - a. Faith and hope are closely related
 - b. Much of what we call “faith” is tied in to the word “hope” (Romans 5:1-5)
 - i. Hope of the glory of God Romans 5:2
 - ii. Our hope in God will not be disappointing Romans 5:5
 - iii. The love is in the love of God which is poured into our hearts
Romans 5:5
 - c. Many aspects of hope
3. The evidence of things not seen
 - a. Greek word “pragmaton” meaning... “deeds” or “things”
 - b. Faith and hope and deeds are closely tied to each other
 - c. The word “evidence” (Greek “conviction”)
 - d. Things not seen
 - i. Faith and hope are “not seen”

ii. But there is a conviction in our hearts which are like “evidence”

4. Examples of what it means to exercise faith

a. Believing in God as Creator of the world Hebrews 11:3

i. By faith we understand

ii. By faith we believe in the power of the Word of God

b. Examples of “the elders” of the faith Hebrews 11:2

i. They obtained a good testimony

ii. They lived by faith

5. Without faith it is impossible to please Him

a. Faith is something God delights in

b. We come to God by faith

c. Two basic things

i. He is

ii. He is a rewarder of those who seek Him

6. Challenge for 2016

a. To deepen our faith

b. To live by faith

c. To obtain a good testimony

d. To emulate the examples of the elders

e. To be an example of living by faith to others

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

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