

Faith

Hebrews 11:1-3

Hebrews 10:26–29 (ESV)

²⁶ For if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, ²⁷ but a fearful expectation of judgment, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries.

Hebrews 10:32–39 (ESV)

³² But recall the former days when, after you were enlightened, you endured a hard struggle with sufferings.

³⁶ For you have need of endurance,

³⁸ but my righteous one shall live by faith, and if he shrinks back, my soul has no pleasure in him.” ³⁹ But we are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed, but of those who have faith and preserve their souls.

Hebrews 11:1–3 (ESV)

¹ Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ² For by it the people of old received their commendation. ³ By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.

Here faith is defined as looking in three directions -

- Faith looks forward
- Faith looks around
- Faith looks backward

There are 3 things that are absolutely essential for you to understand about faith...

1. True Faith is Built on God's Character

Romans 4:3 (ESV) ³ ...“Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.”

So you see Faith rests in the comprehensive Character of God.

2. True Faith is Built on God's Ability

Hebrews 11:3 (ESV)

³ By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.

Hebrews 11:4 (ESV)

⁴ By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain, through which he was commended as righteous, God commanding him by accepting his gifts. And through his faith, though he died, he still speaks.

3. True Faith is Built on the God's Word

Romans 10:17 (ESV)

¹⁷ So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

There are two levels of faith -

a. **CAN DO FAITH** - Is saying, "*I know what God can do based on what He has done in his word*".

John 4:46-47 (NASB95)

⁴⁶ Therefore He came again to Cana of Galilee where He had made the water wine. And there was a royal official whose son was sick at Capernaum. ⁴⁷ When he heard that Jesus had come out of Judea into Galilee, he went to Him and was imploring Him to come down and heal his son:

b. **WILL DO FAITH** - This is faith that rests on a particular promise of God.

Back to our story in John 4 -

⁵⁰ Jesus said to him, "Go; your son lives." The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and started off.

- *Knowing what Jesus is hypothetically able to do produces CAN DO faith*
- *Knowing what Jesus promises do produces WILL DO faith*