

# What is Faith?

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## **A.) Biblical faith enables believers to persevere through suffering**

- 1) The original readers of Hebrews faced persecution, loss, hardship, and discouragement
- 2) Some were tempted to abandon their commitment to Christ because the cost seemed too great
- 3) Hebrews 11 reminds believers that God always sustains His people through trials

## **B.) Faith functions as “spiritual sight”**

- 1) Physical senses provide evidence of the natural world
- 2) Faith allows believers to perceive God's activity beyond the limitations of time, space, and matter
- 3) Biblical faith is not blind belief but confident trust in God's truth and promises
- 4) Christians trust God because faith recognizes the evidence of His work in the world and in people

## **C.) Faith pleases God because it produces obedience**

- 1) Genuine faith moves believers to trust and obey God even during difficult circumstances
- 2) Faith creates a desire to seek God diligently and grow spiritually
- 3) God is honored when His people act upon what He has revealed

## **D.) The heroes of faith trusted God beyond human understanding**

- 1) Noah obeyed God and built the ark despite having no visible proof of coming judgment
- 2) Abraham left his homeland and followed God's call to an unknown land
- 3) Sarah trusted God's promise despite impossible circumstances
- 4) Their confidence rested in God's faithfulness rather than human reasoning

### **E.) God uses imperfect people who act in faith**

- 1) Gideon doubted himself and questioned God's calling
- 2) God saw what Gideon could become rather than what he was
- 3) Faith requires trusting God's calling even when it exceeds our natural abilities
- 4) God often accomplishes His greatest works through weak and ordinary people

### **F.) Faith relies on God's power rather than human strength**

- 1) God reduced Gideon's army so that the victory would clearly belong to Him
- 2) Faith trusts God's wisdom even when His instructions appear unreasonable
- 3) Believers must learn to depend upon God's strength instead of self-reliance

### **G.) God equips every believer with spiritual gifts**

- 1) The Holy Spirit distributes gifts to every member of Christ's body
- 2) Faith itself is one of the gifts God gives to His people
- 3) Christians are called to use their gifts for the benefit of others and the glory of God

### **H.) Faith remains steadfast regardless of circumstances**

- 1) Faith does not guarantee earthly success, comfort, or freedom from suffering
- 2) Many faithful believers throughout history endured persecution and martyrdom
- 3) Believers should confidently place their lives in the hands of a God who continually proves Himself trustworthy whether regardless of the circumstances