



## The Significance of Faith | Application

Because faith is an essential element in life transformation, those who disciple others should understand its importance and choose to live daily by its principles.


 **READ: Hebrews 11:1, 6**

 **WRITE:** Why is it impossible to please God apart from faith?


We practice walking by faith by **believing**, **trusting**, and **acting** on truth.

 **ACTION:** We can each learn to apply truth in our own lives by learning from the examples of those who have chosen to walk by faith. Then, we will be able to use these same truths to influence those we train to do the same.


1. Beside each passage express the thoughts/feelings that the person **could have** experienced in their situation.
2. Then, finish the phrase “But, by faith” and conclude the phrase by writing the specific choices each person made as proof they had active faith. (The first one has been completed as an example for you.)
3. Be purposeful in committing to memory the details of these stories to show those you disciple similar temptations they may experience and the potential they have to walk by faith.


 **Hebrews 11:7; Genesis 6:9-22** Noah could have experienced enormous peer pressure—since the rest of the world’s inhabitants were corrupt (v. 11). He could have become **overwhelmed** by the enormous task of building an ark (vv. 14-16) and experienced **personal doubt**, especially since he had never seen a flood (v. 17).

**But, by faith** Noah **chose** to walk with God (v. 9) in full **obedience** to Him (v. 22) as a result of **reverent fear** (v. 7).

 **Hebrews 11:8-12; Genesis 12:1:**

**But, by faith:**

 What would it take for you to fully rely on God’s instructions and leading? (Be specific.)

 **Hebrews 11:17-19; Genesis 22:1-14:**

**But, by faith:**

Sometimes God will lead us into difficult circumstances in order to test our faith. It is in these situations that we realize what we really believe to be true about the power of God’s Word and His character. A person walks by faith by believing and trusting in God regardless of the outcome.

✍ Are there times in your life when considering the potential outcome of a situation causes you to postpone acting on faith? (Explain.)

✍ What would be the benefits of acting immediately on faith?

📎 Hebrews 11:21; Genesis 47:29-31, 48:8-20:

**But, by faith:**

God's plans often differ from ours. Joseph's life was not what he or his father Jacob had envisioned for him, and, as Jacob blessed Joseph's sons, it was not what Joseph had in mind.

✍ Are there times when your plans prevent you from being open to God's direction for your life or cause you to manipulate circumstances to fit your desires? If so, what changes need to take place for you to consistently choose God's way over your own path? (Be specific.)

📎 Hebrews 11:22; Genesis 50:24-25; Exodus 13:19; Romans 10:17:

**But, by faith:**

Even at the end of his life, Joseph focused on the faithful promises of God. Faith is based on biblical truth. Therefore, when a person chooses to not just nurture their faith, by studying God's Word, but activate their faith, by believing and trusting in it, they are walking by faith. Through acting on faith, a person exchanges unbelief for **belief**, lies for **truth**, and feelings of uncertainty for the **certainty** of God's promises.

✍ What changes would need to take place in your life in order for you to stand firmly by faith on the truth of God's Word and trust in His character to see you through? (Be specific.)

✍ Consider, for a moment, your schedule. How will you use daily activities to help nurture the faith of those around you and encourage them to walk by faith?

📎 Hebrews 11:23-28, 10:35-36:

**But, by faith:**

- ✍ In considering obedience to God, is it your habit to avoid or look for ways to escape adversity, ridicule, or disapproval of others? (Explain.)

 **Hebrews 11:30; Joshua 6:1-21; Isaiah 55:8-9**

Sometimes God will ask us to do things that may not make sense to us or those around us.

- ✍ Is it difficult for you to obey God when you have unanswered questions about the direction He is leading or the purpose He is trying to achieve? If so, what does your hesitation to obey say about your view of Almighty God and your trust in Him?
- ✍ What changes will you make to more consistently view life from a perspective of faith rather than sight?

 **Hebrews 11:31; Joshua 2:8-11, 6:22-25**

- 🌱 Do you ever doubt that God can use you because of past sin?

The enemy will work hard to tempt you to invest in thoughts of inadequacy, making you ineffective for God's kingdom rather than encourage you to invest in thoughts that reflect your true nature in Christ.

- 📌 Ask the Lord to enable you to recognize temptations to invest in thoughts that reflect the past and to help you avoid those temptations by standing on truth. By doing so, you will be living by faith!

 **Hebrews 12:2-3**

If you want to increase in faith, focus on the creator of faith—the only one who can perfect faith in you.

- ✍ What are some practical ways to fix or set your eyes on Jesus? (Be prepared to communicate these habits with those you disciple.)
- ✍ Is it your habit to count the cost of obedience more than the blessings of it? If not, what changes need to be made in your life in order to allow God to work in such a way that it exceeds your greatest expectations and human capabilities regardless of the cost?

One of the greatest ways you can help others live by faith is to show them practical ways to act on faith rather than sight. For example, if a person experiences a feeling of being overwhelmed because they view a circumstance as too hard to bear, you can:

- Encourage them to exchange those feelings that oppose truth for those that reflect God's Word (e.g. **Jeremiah 32:17, Luke 1:37, Philippians 4:13**).
- Then, encourage them to intentionally believe and trust in biblical truth, thereby walking by faith.

✦ The following words represent thoughts and feelings that may tempt a person to walk by sight or fleshly desires, thereby blocking their faith.

1. Beside each word write out Scripture verses that will be relevant to each specific issue.
2. Then, express how a person can exchange fleshly thoughts for faith-filled ones, using the biblical truths you found. (The first one has been completed as an example.)

- Anxiety/Worry: **Philippians 4:6-7** Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God. **Psalm 55:22a** Cast your cares on the LORD and he will sustain you.

Rather than choosing to be anxious while I wait for a change in my situation, I'm going to give each of my cares to God, trusting Him to sustain me.

- Fear:

- Disappointment/Discouragement:

- Doubt:

- Confusion:

- Frustration/Anger:

✦ Practice walking by faith:

1. Ask God to enable you to identify words you use that reveal thoughts and feelings that oppose God's nature or His Word. Then, begin to develop the habit of exchanging them for truth.
2. As you recognize the words others use that reflect sight instead of faith, follow God's lead in guiding them into truth.

⚡ **TO ENCOURAGE:** We constantly pray for you, that our God may count you worthy of his calling, and that by his power he may fulfill every good purpose of yours and every act prompted by your faith. We pray this so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ. (**2 Thessalonians 1:11-12**)