

November 2001

Spiritual Coffee

One aspect that I have learned important for any Christian in his or her walk with the Lord is faith. Faith is such an important concept that for most of the bible it is a requirement. If you're a Christian and your faith is not built up to where it should be or where you know it's not, you will not be able to fulfill the call God has put on your life.

First off you may be asking your self "what is faith?" Well let me expound on that. The bible definition of faith is :

"...faith is the substance of things hoped for and the evidence of things unseen..."
Hebrews 11:1

So believing or having *faith* in what you can't see, that substance hoped for, will produce whatever you have been believing God for into the natural. Now the bible says for us to have unwavering faith. The bible also says :

"Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need."

Hebrews 4:16 NIV

So not only do you have to have faith in what you can't see you have to go to the throne of grace with confidence to get what your hoping for. You may be saying to yourself "how do I get that kind of faith and confidence?" Well, do what the bible says to do first.

"But seek first His kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well"

Matthew 6:33 NIV

Seeking His kingdom, seeking His face, getting to know God on a personal level. God is a God of fellowship and if we will take the time to seek him in prayer and/or study He will reveal himself to us. In revealing himself to us the word says "...and all these things will be added to you...." So you first seek Him, then God will provide the provision.

How do you develop your faith? Well Romans 10:17 NIV says "...faith come from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ." So meditating on the word, studying, listening, and reading the word will build your faith. Proverbs 3:5 NIV says "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight." Isn't it easier when you have a straight path to go down opposed from a crooked path?

First seeking God & his kingdom. Then building your faith through hearing the word and trusting in him, or having faith in him, in everything you do and he will make your paths straight or easier. Wow, what an awesome God we serve!

Of course the bible even tells us of test, trials, and tribulations we may endure, but if you follow these steps, first seeking the kingdom of God, trusting God in all our ways (not your ways), and building your faith (building your relationship with God), you will overcome any hindrances in your life.