

# Embassy Bible College

## Foundations of Faith

### Lesson 1

Why faith is so important: Hebrews 11:6, Romans 8:8

What Faith is

#### A. Faith Defined

1. Hebrews 11:1
  - a. gives substance to hope
  - b. evidence of unseen
2. Faith = pistis (vine)
  - a. firm persuasion
  - b. conviction based upon hearing

Supporting scriptures: Romans 8:24, 2 Corinthians 4:18, 2 Corinthians 5:7, Romans 4:17, 18, Hebrews 11:7

#### B. Heart Faith

1. Mark 11:22-24
  - a. it is always now
  - b. looks at unseen (Hebrews 11:3)
2. James 1:6-8
3. 2 Corinthians 5:7
4. Mental assent
  - a. I know the Word says, but...
  - b. it does not work for me

Supporting scriptures: Eph. 6:16, John 14:14, Hebrews 13:8, Malachi 3:6

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#### C. Measuring faith

1. Romans 12:3

God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.

  - a. grow faith (2 Thess. 1:3)
  - b. little faith (Luke 12:28)
  - c. strengthened in faith Romans 4:19-21

Supporting scriptures: Matt 8:5-10, James 1:2, 1 Peter 1:7, Eph. 1:16-23 (v.20), Eph. 2:1-8 (v.5), Hebrews 12:1-2, Matthew 25:14-29, Genesis 22:9-12

#### D. Faith contrasted

1. Thomas' faith (John 20:24-29)
2. Zacharias (Luke 1:5-25)
3. Abraham's faith (Romans 4:19-20)
  - a. believes the Word only
  - b. calls non-existent things into being
  - c. fully persuaded God's promises are true
  - d. receives the desired results.

Supporting scriptures: Luke 5:18-20

#### E. Where and how faith comes

1. Where faith originates

God is a faith God

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- a. Hebrews 11:3
- b. It is the gift of God (Eph 2:8)
- c. Romans 10:9-10
- 2. Faith begins where the will of God is known:
- d. Romans 12:2
- e. Romans 10:17

Paul did 3 things:

- 1) preached the gospel
- 2) perceived the man's faith to be healed
- 3) commanded the man to stand up

The man did 3 things:

- 1) he heard Paul preach
- 2) **he** had faith to be healed
- 3) he leaped and walked

Supporting scriptures: Acts 14:7-10, Matthew 12:34, Matt 4:4, Deut. 8:3, 1 John 5:4,15, James 2:18-24, Romans 8:2, Daniel 3:15-17, 25, Ephesians 5:17

### F. Faith is a Spiritual force

- a. God is a Spirit (John 4:24)
- b. You are a Spirit (1 Thessalonians 5:23, Eph. 1:15-23, Romans 8:11)
- c. God's Word is a Spirit (John 6:63)
- d. The Word divides between Spirit and soul (Hebrews 4:12)
- e. It is of the heart (Mark 11:23)

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### Summary:

The sequence of faith:

- 1. Hearing the Word (Romans 10:17)
- 2. Believing the Word (Hebrews 11:6)
- 3. Speaking / confessing God's Word (Romans 10:9,10)
- 4. Acting upon God's Word (James 2:18-24)
- A. Faith gives substance to hope
- B. Faith is of the Spirit not the mind
- C. Faith is being fully persuaded God cannot lie
- D. Faith comes from God
- E. It is imparted at salvation
- F. Everyone has the same measure
- G. Faith is always now
- H. Believing requires action
- I. Biblical hope is a key part of faith

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### Lesson 2

**Faith for Salvation** – John 3:3, John 3:6

A. Salvation (also corporate Acts 2:21, Acts 16:31)

1. Soteria – deliverance, preservation
  - a. material and temporal deliverance
  - b. wholeness – spirit, soul and body

Supporting scriptures: John 3:16, Romans 3:22, Romans 10: 8-10, Hebrews 4:12, Romans 5:1

2. New creation
  - a. 2 Corinthians 5:17
  - b. Ephesians 2:10 (recreated)

B. Saved by faith

1. Ephesians 2:8-9
  - a. gift of God
  - b. not by works

2. Romans 8:30

C. How faith for salvation comes

1. Romans 10:17
2. Romans 10:13 (Isaiah 52:7)
  - a. Word preached to you
  - b. Romans 1:16
  - c. Act 11:13-14

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3. Three steps

- a. confess
- b. believe
- c. accept

Supporting scriptures: 2 Corinthians 4:16, Ephesians 1:13, 1 Thessalonians 2:13, Acts 3:19, Romans 10:9-10, 13, John 10:28-29

**Faith for Baptism of Holy Spirit**

A. The Promise

1. Luke 24:49
2. Luke 3:16, Acts 2:3-4
3. John 14:16, John 14:26

Supporting scriptures: John 16:7, 2 Corinthians 5:5-7, 1 Corinthians 2:14

B. The Fulfilment

1. Acts 1:8
2. Acts 2:4, 19:6, Jude 1:20

C. The Experience

1. Acts 8:14-17
  - a. after they were born again
  - b. physical outward evidence
2. Acts 9:17-18; 1 Cor. 14:18

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3. Acts 10:44-48
  - a. the Gentiles Pentecost
  - b. available to all believers
4. Acts 19:1-6
  - a. did not know about Holy Spirit
  - b. when heard – received
5. A spiritual experience
  - a. 1 Corinthians 14:14
  - b. mind not understanding what is said
6. Received by faith (Galatians 3:2)

Supporting scriptures: Isaiah 28:11, Ephesians 6:18, 1 Corinthians 14:2, 4, Romans 8:26, Galatians 3:2, Jude 1:20, 2 Corinthians 3:17

### The God kind of faith

- A. What it is
  1. Mark 11:12-14
    - a. Jesus spoke to the tree
    - b. never again bear fruit
  2. Mark 11:19-24
    - a. 24 hours later dried up by its roots
    - b. have God kind of faith (Greek: have the faith of God)
    - c. believe in your heart
    - d. confess with your mouth

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3. Hebrews 11:3
  - a. worlds famed by spoken Word (Rhema is spoken Word of God)
  - b. spoken into existence

Supporting scripture: Galatians 1:11-16

- B. Key to Faith
  1. Believing and saying
  2. Romans 10:8
  3. Romans 10:13-14, 17
  4. Faith is said to:
    - a. be given (Romans 12:3)
    - b. be dealt
    - c. cometh
  5. 2 Corinthians 4:13 same spirit of faith
  6. Proverbs 13:2

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### How it operates

A. People destroyed by lack of knowledge

1. Hosea 4:6 *This is what happens when the people have no faith*
2. 1 John 5:5-7

B. God kind of faith

1. Mark 11:22-24, Luke 17:6
2. Not afraid to speak out
3. Romans 4:17, Romans 3:27

C. What are we to speak?

1. 2 Corinthians 4:13
  - a. speak what you believe
  - b. speak what God says

*Put out any thoughts that do not  
comply with the Word of God.*

*Phil 4:7-9*

Supporting scriptures: Proverbs 13:2, Psalm 141:3, Luke 6:1-9, Ephesians 6:10-18, Romans 3:22, James 1:6-7, Romans 14:23, Hebrews 4:2

2. 2 Corinthians 10:5
  - a. mind can give you problems
  - b. cast down imaginations
3. If doubt in mind – cast it down
4. Faith still operative
5. Hebrews 10:23
  - a. hold fast your confession
  - b. do not waiver

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6. Mark 5:25-34
  - a. for she continually said (the Greek is continuous)
  - b. put a demand on God that produced

Supporting scriptures: James 1:22, John 15:7, Mark 5:25-34, Matthew 16:13-19

Matthew 16:13-19      Greek petros = stone,      petra = rock

### Summary

- A. God gives you the faith for salvation
- B. Salvation means wholeness for our whole man
- C. Faith for salvation comes through the Word
- D. God promised the Holy Spirit to all believers
- E. The promise was fulfilled at Pentecost
- F. Tongues is the initial evidence of Holy Spirit baptism
- G. The God kind of faith is creative
- H. It demands believing with the heart
- I. It demands speaking with the mouth
- J. Lack of knowledge brings destruction
- K. Speak what you believe continually
- L. It will produce the results you desire

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### Lesson 3

#### 1. Logos and Rhema

##### A. Terms defined

1. Logos (Jesus)
  - a. the entire Word of God (Mark 7:13)
  - b. Title for Jesus (John 1:1)
    1. His distinct personality
    2. His relation in the Godhead
    3. His Deity and creative power

Supporting scriptures: Galatians 5:14, James 1:22, Hebrews 4:12, Mark 16:20, Revelation 22:18-19.

##### 2. Rhema

- a. that which is spoken in faith
  1. John 3:34
  2. Luke 1:37 (Amp)
  3. Hebrews 11:3
- b. Ephesians 6:17

Supporting scriptures: Exodus 20:1, Acts 8:29, Acts 10:19, Romans 10:17.

##### B. The Distinction

1. The logos is general (i.e. God heals)
2. The Rhema is singular
  - a. by His stripes we were healed (1 Peter 2:24)

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- b. it involves our saying it (Ephesians 6:17)
      - c. it is an offensive weapon
    3. Must take logos and make it Rhema
      - a. Matthew 4:4
      - b. personal to you

##### 2. Summary

- A. Logos is the entire Word
- B. Rhema is the spoken Word
- C. Make Logos Rhema by confession of the Word

#### 2. Confession

##### A. Terms defined (Strong's Concordance)

1. Homologeō (Greek for Confession)

Confession of God's Word is:

1. affirming something we believe
2. testifying to something we know
3. witnessing to a truth we have embraced

- We are to:
- a. to speak the same as God
  - b. to declare openly (Romans 10:9-10)
  - c. acknowledgement of a truth (Hebrews 4:14; 10:23)

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Supporting scriptures: Proverbs 4:20, Genesis 15:1, John 6:63, Romans 10:8. Genesis 1:3, James 3:2-10, Mark 7:15-16, Deuteronomy 18:18, John 12:49.

2. Confession is speaking what you believe

### B. What to believe

1. The Word
  - a. Romans 10:17
  - b. Psalm 138:2
  - c. Psalm 89:34 (Psalm 119:89)
  - d. God is true (Romans 3:4 Amp)
  - e. justified in sayings
  - f. must be saying what God says

Supporting scripture: Matthew 12:37, Proverbs 13:2, Matthew 12:34, Romans 3:4.

2. How this operates

### C. The general principle for all confession

1. Romans 10:9-10 (to speak and believe)
2. Mark 11:23
3. Speak what you believe (Joel 3:10)
4. 2 Corinthians 1:20 (Amp)
  - a. all promises are yes
  - b. we utter the agreement

Supporting scripture: Jeremiah 1:4-10

## 2. Summary

A. Confession is speaking what you believe

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B. You are to believe the Word of God

C. You are justified when speaking the Word

### 3. The choice is yours

#### A. The Principle

1. Deuteronomy 30:19
  - a. choice set before you
  - b. you determine the outcome
2. 2 Corinthians 1:20

#### B. How it works

1. Matthew 16:19
  - a. you are the establishing witness
  - b. what you allow – God allows
2. Matthew 18:18-19
  - a. cannot walk together unless agreed
  - b. must speak the same (1 Corinthians 1:10)
3. Proverbs 18:20-21

#### C. Examples

1. Evil report (Numbers 13:18-33)
  - a. everything God said is true

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- b. we have natural evidence
- c. we are unable to do it
- 2. Good report (Numbers 14:5-11)
  - a. God's Word has been true until now
  - b. God does not change
  - c. we are more than able to do it

Supporting scripture: John 8:28-32, 1 Peter 2:24, Matthew 8:17.

### 2. Summary

- A. Life and death are in your tongue
- B. You choose your results
- C. Good report agrees with God and the Word

### **4. Corresponding actions**

#### A. Faith requires action (doing the Word)

- 1. James 1:22-25
  - a. inaction equals self-deception
  - b. looking at the Word helps to do work
- 2. James 2:14-19
  - a. profession of faith no good if
  - b. actions do not correspond
- 3. James 2:20-26
  - a. faith without works is dead
  - b. works mature your faith

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- c. man is justified by faith and works
- 4. Weymouth translation James 2:14, 22
- B. Scriptural examples
  - 1. Matthew 7:23- 27
    - a. hear the Word and do it
    - b. the house build on rock
    - c. no actions – you fall
  - 2. Luke 5:17-25
    - a. man borne of four
    - b. Jesus saw their faith (by their actions)
  - 3. John 9:1-7
  - 4. 2 Kings 5:1-14

Supporting scripture: Romans 4:12-13, Matthew 9:28-29, Acts 3:16, Acts 14:9, Matthew 21:22, Romans 8:5.

### 2. Summary

- A. Faith requires corresponding action
- B. Self-deception is produced by inaction
- C. Faith is matured by corresponding actions



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### Lesson 4

#### 1. Understanding Authority

Luke 4:1-3 Jesus used the Word to defeat His adversary.

The Greek word for authority is exousia.

ex - which means out of, and ousia - which means substance.

Dominion (kuriotes from kúrios = supreme in authority, lord, master)

The Holy Spirit gives us power: Acts 1:8

All authority comes from and originates with God Romans 13:1

Genesis 1:26 and 28 God gave us dominion – Satan took by deception

Jesus defeated Satan Colossians 2:15

Jesus has been given all authority Matthew 28:18, Ephesians 1:22-23

Unclean spirits obey Jesus Mark 1:21-27

Romans 8:16-17 we are children of God and joint heirs with Christ

Ephesians 2:6

Jesus gave power and authority Luke 9:1, Luke 10:16-19

We do not wrestle with flesh and blood Ephesians chapter 6:12

Angels are under our authority Hebrews 1:13-14

Supporting scriptures: Isaiah 54:17, 2 Corinthians 10:8, Luke 7:2-10, John 14:10-11, James 4:7, 1 John 4:4

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Summary:

- a) all authority originates from God
- b) God gave us dominion on earth over every living thing
- c) Jesus has been given all authority in heaven and on earth
- d) Jesus gave us authority over the enemy

#### 2. Faith versus feeling

A. Faith should not be based on feelings or experience

1. Faith is a natural force (Proverbs 3:5, Proverbs 14:12, Romans 8:35-39)
2. The natural cannot comprehend the Spirit (1 Corinthians 2:14)
3. John 20:24-29 Doubting Thomas
  - a. sense knowledge
  - b. see the prints
  - c. thrust hand into side

B. Faith is based upon the Word

1. 2 Corinthians 5:7 – walk by faith
2. 2 Corinthians 4:18
  - a. look at unseen
  - b. seen is temporal – subject to change

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1. Experience produced by standing upon the Word
  2. Receive what is desired
- C. Formula for faith
1. Find the promise in the Word
  2. Believe and confess the Word
  3. Do not consider contradictory circumstances
  4. Praise God for the answer
2. Summary    A. Faith is not a produce of feelings    B. Feelings will lie to you    C. Faith is based upon the Word

### **3. Faith is a way of life**

- A. Living by faith
1. Romans 14:23
    - a. if you doubt, it is not faith
    - b. if not faith, it is sin
  2. Hebrews 11 (read chapter)
    - a. everything we do requires faith
    - b. if you do not understand faith – you do not understand God
- Jesus says use what you have, God will give more Luke 16:10, Ephesians 3:20, Matthew 25:21
3. Justified by faith (Romans 5:1)
- B. We must live by faith
1. Deuteronomy 19:15

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- a. Two or more witnesses
  - b. it is established
2. Habakkuk 2:4 – the just *shall* live by faith
  3. Romans 1:17 – the just *shall* live by faith
  4. Galatians 3:11 – the just *shall* live by faith
  5. Hebrews 10:38-39
    - a. the just *shall* live by faith
    - b. if not receive perdition
    - c. perdition – ruin, loss or destruction
  6. God does not ask that we live by faith
    - a. He demands that we live by faith
    - b. anything less is sin
- Supporting scripture: John 15:7
2. Summary    A. We are required to live by faith    B. If not in faith, then you are in sin    C. Draw back from the Word, and you will suffer loss

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### 4. How to receive the promises of God

- A. The promises
  - 2 Corinthians 1:20 (Amp)
  - a. all promises yes
  - b. we utter, so be it
- B. Three principles (healing as an example)
  - 1. Find the scriptures
    - a. Isaiah 53:5
    - b. Matthew 8:17
    - c. 1 Peter 2:24
    - d. Mark 16:18
    - e. James 5:16
  - 2. The prayer (claiming the promise)
    - a. put God in remembrance of His Word
      - 1. Isaiah 43:26
      - 2. Isaiah 55:11
    - b. use the scriptures in your prayers
    - c. pray in Jesus' name (John 16:23-24, John 14:14)
  - 3. Thanksgiving and confession
    - a. Philippians 4:6
    - b. Hebrews 10:23
- C. Operate in patience

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- 1. Hebrews 10:35 – 36
- 2. James 1:4-5
- 3. Psalm 31:14-15
- 4. Isaiah 30:18
- 5. Isaiah 40:31
- 6. Galatians 6:9

Supporting scripture: 1 John 5:14

- 2. Summary A. We are the establishing witness for God's promises B. Use the scripture promises in your prayers
- C. Allow patience to undergird your faith

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### Lesson 5

#### **1. Six enemies of faith**

- A. The fight of faith – 1 Peter 5:8-9
  - 1. 1 Timothy 6:12
  - 2. If there is a fight – it must be the enemy Ephesians 4:22-29
  - 3. 2 Timothy 4:7
- B. Faith's enemies
  - 1. Failure to understand new creation
    - a. 2 Corinthians 5:17, 1 Cor. 6:17, 1 John 3:9
    - b. Ephesians 2:10
  - 2. Failure to understand "In Him" realities
    - a. Ephesians 1:7
    - b. 1 Corinthians 1:30
  - 3. Failure to understand righteousness
    - a. 2 Corinthians 5:21
    - b. Romans 3:21-26
  - 4. Failure to properly use the Name of Jesus
    - a. John 16:23-24
    - b. Mark 16:15-18
  - 5. Failure to act upon the Word
    - a. James 1:22
    - b. James 2:20-24

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- 6. Failure to hold fast your confession
  - a. Hebrews 4:14
  - b. Hebrews 10:23
- 2. Summary
  - A. We are to fight the fight of faith
  - B. We must understand our rights and privileges
  - C. When you do this – victory is yours

#### **2. Doubt – faith's greatest enemy**

- A. Terms defined
  - 1. Aporeo (Greek – Strong's) – to be at a loss mentally, perplexed
    - a. to be without a way
    - b. John 13:22
  - 2. Distazo – means to waver, to doubt
    - a. to stand in two ways
    - b. Matthew 14:31
- Doubt won't leave – **you** need to kick it out, cast it down.
- 3. Meteorizo – up in the air, be of doubtful mind
  - a. wavering between two ways
  - b. Luke 12:29

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### B. Doubt robs you of faith

1. Matthew 14:22-31
  - a. Jesus walking on water
  - b. Peter walked on water
  - c. doubt caused him to sink
2. Doubt causes unbelief
  - a. Matthew 17:14-20
  - b. Mark 4:35-40
3. James 1:5-8
  - a. wavering causes you to fall
  - b. not receive anything

### 2. Summary

- A. Doubt will rob your faith
- B. Doubt will cause you to operate in unbelief
- C. Wavering keeps you from receiving
- D. The Word will dispel doubt and fear

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### 3. Unforgiveness – a hindrance to receiving

#### A. Forgiveness

1. Terms defined
  - a. Aphemi
    1. Remission of punishment due
    2. Complete removal of offence
  - b. Aphesis – a dismissal and release
2. God's method of operation
  - a. Ephesians 1:7
  - b. Colossians 1:14
  - c. Romans 5:8-10
  - d. 1 John 1:9

#### B. Jesus taught on forgiveness

1. Luke 7:37-50
2. Matthew 6:14-15

Jesus teaches us to forgive seventy times seven: that's 490 times per day (Matt. 18:22)

- a. if you forgive men
  - b. you will be forgiven
  - c. the opposite also applies
3. Luke 6:37

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4. Luke 17:3-4

C. We must operate in forgiveness

1. Matthew 5:23-24

2. Mark 11:25-26

2. Summary

A. When God forgives He removes the offence

B. If you forgive, you will be forgiven

C. If you do not forgive, your faith will not work

Luke 18:8 *when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?*