

WHAT IS FAITH?

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen..." (Hebrews 11:1)

Introduction: Some of our definitions of faith are: just, reasonable, correct, proper, morally or legally right, deserved, merited, allegiance to duty or a person, loyalty, belief and trust in God, confidence, etc. So according to what God, what kind of faith should we have?

I. IS FAITH JUST ANOTHER NAME FOR UNEXPLAINABLE EVENTS?

1. Faith in witch doctors.
2. Faith in "faith healers."
3. Faith in statues that bleed or weep.

II. IS FAITH THAT EXTRA SOMETHING WHICH MAKES CHRISTIANS DIFFERENT?

1. Many use "faith" in the place of the words "ignorant, superstitions, the universe."
2. Faith is not something that fills the gaps in our knowledge, for faith will shrink if this is true for knowledge increases, therefore faith must decrease.

III. FAITH IS WIDE, DEEP AND SIMPLE

1. Jesus talked about being like little children, how and in what ways?
2. What about your own child, is not simple trust his/her whole life?
3. Faith is the short name for humbling ourselves, for admitting we are but babes in a gigantic world.

IV. FAITH IS NOT AN INTELLECTUAL THING

1. Contrary to some beliefs, faith doesn't need theologians or scholars to explain it.
2. Faith is something every little, gray-headed lady can understand (no puns intended).

V. FAITH IS TAKING JESUS AT HIS WORD

1. Jesus said *"...follow me..."* Well, faith is "following Him."
2. Jesus said that there were many mansions. Faith is believing that there are.
3. Jesus said, *"Lo, I am with you always.."* Faith is knowing that He is.

4. Jesus said, "*...your sins are forgiven you...*" Faith is trusting that they are.
5. So, faith is taking Jesus at His word, no other proof needed.

CONCLUSION:

1. Faith is the very essence of the Christian life.
2. Faith distinguishes Christians from everyone else.
3. Faith is putting Christ at the center of your life.
4. Faith releases the power of God in your life.
5. Therefore Christian, believe! Act as if it were all true, and God will never let you down.