



How to Increase FAITH

Good morning church, I want to welcome you to our service today. If this is your first time joining us here on Sunday Online, we would like to welcome, you to our service today and invite you to join us every Sunday for a weekly message.

Let us pray

Introduction

Today I want to continue our short series on FAITH. Last week I spoke about “What faith is and why FAITH is so important to a Christian’s life”, and this week I want to talk about how you can increase FAITH.

A short recap from last week, FAITH, What is FAITH? According to **Hebrews 11:1**, it says, “**Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.**”

So, according to **Hebrews 11:1**, biblical FAITH consists of two elements:

- Things HOPED for – there is something you need, like healing, you are sick, and you want to be well again
- Things NOT SEEN – you cannot see your healing because you feel sick, and you are trusting to be healed with the evidence of feeling well

So, Biblical FAITH, something HOPED FOR, and something NOT SEEN. And FAITH has certain rules like you cannot have something in FAITH that is already owned by someone else unless they give it to you! So you can have FAITH to have their car, house or wife, but you can ask God for things like their car, house or wife.

And secondly, **Hebrews 11:6**, “**6 And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.**”

So, when we ask God for something in FAITH, we need to come to HIM in FAITH in Him and His ability to reward those who come to Him in FAITH!

How to increase FAITH?

Our topic today is how we increase our FAITH?

We need to exercise our FAITH daily

The first thing is to start using our FAITH, or exercise our faith! We spoke about a little of this last week when I said that FAITH is like a muscle, it needs to be used, exercised in order to grow.

Therefore **James 2:17** says “**17 In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.**”

FAITH without any action is dead. This is the reason why people who do not have time for God and His Word, who do not attend church regularly then something happens, and we call out to God, which is a good thing, but we do not have the confidence that God hears our prayers.



Why? Because our FAITH is either dead, or very weak due to unuse, but now put someone who has been walking with God every day in FAITH, what would they do? They would start acting in FAITH, praying and asking God to intervene because, through a FAITH walk, they have seen God work in their lives.

I cannot stress this point enough, Christianity and this includes your FAITH walk is ALL because of your RELATIONSHIP with GOD, build a relationship with anyone and it is easier to ask that person for a favour but take someone who you have only met once and try to ask them for something, there is a HUGE difference in the level of TRUST or FAITH in you and your abilities.

So, you build your FAITH through exercising FAITH every day and by a RELATIONSHIP with God!

Building FAITH through the WORD

The next way to build your FAITH is through hearing the WORD OF GOD!

The Bible says in **ROMANS 10:17**, *“¹⁷ So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”*

Every time you hear the WORD of GOD you are building your FAITH! That is incredible, so each time, you go to church, and listen to a message preached your FAITH is being built up?

Wow, no wonder Satan has been attacking the church during COVID-19 but limiting people from attending church, he wants to steal the WORD for God from you and also steal your FAITH, I have always said to anyone who would listen, do not stop listening to church sermons!

Satan's strategy

Just a short note here, Satan strategy has always been to rob you, his ultimate goal is to rob you of your Salvation:

He will do this by firstly getting you to be isolated by not going to church thereby stealing the Word from being heard by you and also stealing your ability to sing the Word of God through praise and worship.

Next, when you are isolated and down in your FAITH and feeling far from God, he will try to steal your joy, why? Because the joy of the Lord is your strength. Knowing who you are in God and through His Word and the benefits of What Jesus Christ did for you and I is a foundation to our joy.

Remember there is a BIG difference between happiness and joy, happiness depends on happenings, your spouse buys you what you wanted for Christmas and so you are happy, but if they did not buy you what you wanted then you are not happy.

Joy on the other hand does not depend on happenings but is based on things outside of yourself, like righteousness, or your right standing with God! That is why the saints of old could be heard singing praise to God while being burnt at the stake!



So, hearing the Word of God is very important and the good thing is it does not depend on the method we hear as long as we hear the message, although the assembling together at church is most important but if we cannot meet together at least we can still hear the message in various ways.

Today, we are blessed to have Christian TV, the internet and many other ways to connect with men and women of God during any time of the week, the sad truth is many people did not continue to listen to sermons online during COVID-19 and their FAITH has got weakened.

The good news is you can start today, and build your FAITH to even higher levels through hearing the Word of God and especially building your relationship with God and reading and hearing the Word of God.

Using your senses

People often ask me how I can know the Word of God so well and my only answer is firstly it's through the grace of God and the help of the Holy Spirit that I made this discovery, but it is through

Did you know that when you read the Word of God or when you read anything, the more senses you can activate the better recall you will have?

You can take your Bible, read it out loud, follow with your finger and smell your Bible, all books have a smell associated with them and my Bible has a unique smell because I accidentally did not seal the anointing oil when I placed it back in my Bible so my Bible smells like anointing oil, but just think of what I am saying?

The five senses God gave us are, the sense of sight, sense of smell, sense of hearing, sense of taste and sense of touch).

If you use as many senses as you can when you read your Bible, and you read it (sense of sight), out loud (sense of hearing), you follow with your finger (sense of Touch), you smell (sense of smell) and the Bible says in **Psalm 34:8** *"Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good; Blessed is the man who trusts in Him!"*

So, it is possible to have all five-sense active while reading your Bible! Can you imagine how this will grow your FAITH in God and His Word?

Let me suggest that you start to read your Bible out loud, so that you can hear the Word of God and hearing the Word will increase your FAITH.

Conclusion

In summary, the way you grow your faith in God is through a relationship with God and being able to hear the Word of God and lastly, by exercising your FAITH daily like a muscle and coming to GOD, not your bank account, your rich friends or family or anything thing



else, come to God in FAITH believe that HE IS GOD and that He rewards those who seek/come to Him for their answers.

The WORD of God is so important because it is through reading/studying His Word that the Holy Spirit brings the Word of God to life and show you what you can or can't trust God for!

The WORD of God will always produce FAITH in our lives and will always require FAITH to activate the WORD OF GOD in our lives. Amen!

Let's pray