

Bethel Bible Series

Faith NT Study 12

Faith is not by itself. - PK

Welcome

Opening - How do people try to justify the wrongs they do?
Prayer Requests and Opening Prayer

Review of Last Week - *Justification*

Words on the Street - God's Word teaches us otherwise:

*We are all going to the same place.
It makes no difference what a person believes as long as he is sincere.
Now there's someone who deserves to go to heaven.*

Definitions

Salvation - Being saved from deserved eternal damnation, given eternal life
Righteousness - Perfect conformance to God's standards, be right with God
Justification - God's judicial act in counting the faithful righteous
Sanctification - To be made holy, set free from burden of sin to do God's work

Justification

Figure Facing Heaven's Light = Christian sees Bible as authority on life and faith
Figures Standing on Barren Earth = God won't accept sinful into His kingdom
Golden City = God acted through Christ to justify sinners in His eyes

The Parable of the Wedding Banquet (Matthew 22:1-14)

God the Father has prepared a wonderful feast celebrating His Son's wedding
The invited guests, the Jews, have rejected their invitations
They even attacked and killed His servants, the prophets
God called other servants, the apostles, to invite everyone they could find
Wedding clothes of justification are given to sanctify all to be in the king's presence
Those who refuse to wear these wedding clothes through faith are sent out

Distracting Bubbles

Figures Reaching for Bubbles = Man seeks justification in ways that can't justify
Mortarboard and Book = Not justified by Human Wisdom
Law Tablets and Scales = Not justified by Works of the Law or Morality
Ivory Tower = Not justified by Idealism and Noble Intentions
Microscope and Vials = Not justified by Self-Efforts

Bubbles Reflect Heaven's Light = Bubble things are good, but do not justify
Pathway From Mountaintop = We're justified by what God did through Christ
Figure in White Robe Extends Arms Heavenward = Justification is through faith

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Lesson - Faith

Benefits of Faith

What is the greatest blessing of faith?

Romans 4:4-5 = *Faith is credited as righteousness*

Mark 16:16 = *Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved*

Hebrews 11:5 = By faith Enoch did not experience death

Understanding is enlarged

Hebrews 11:3 = By faith we understand the world was created by God's Word

Proverbs 1:7 = *The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge*

1 Corinthians 2:14 = The man who does not accept the Spirit cannot understand

Blessings are given

Hebrews 11:6 = God rewards those with faith who seek Him

Matthew 9:2 = To the paralytic, *Your sins are forgiven*

Matthew 15:28 = To the mother, *You have great faith! Your request is granted*

Matthew 17:20 = *have faith as a mustard seed ... nothing will be impossible*

Matthew 21:21-22 = *If you believe, you will receive what you ask in prayer*

Hebrews 11:31 = By faith Rahab was not killed with the disobedient

Divine Responsibilities are accepted

Hebrews 11:4 = By faith Abel offered a better sacrifice and was commended as righteous

Hebrews 11:7 = By faith Noah, when warned of things not seen, built an ark

Hebrews 11:8-10 = By faith Abraham obeyed, not knowing where he would go

Hebrews 11:17-19 = By faith Abraham offered Isaac as a sacrifice

God's Plan is understood

Hebrews 11:13-16 = By faith patriarchs welcomed promises from a distance

Hebrews 11:20-21 = By faith Isaac and Jacob blessed their sons

Hebrews 11:22 = By faith Joseph spoke of the exodus

Persecution is tolerated

Hebrews 11:24-26 = By faith Moses chose to be mistreated with the people

Hebrews 11:35-40 = Others were tortured, flogged, stoned, destitute ... for their faith

Fear and Frustration are calmed

Hebrews 11:23 = By faith Moses' parents were not afraid of the king's edict

Hebrews 11:27-28 = By faith Moses left Egypt and kept the Passover

Romans 5:1 = *Since we have been justified through faith we have peace with God*

Miracles are produced

Matthew 9:22 = To the bleeding woman, *Your faith has healed you, healed that moment*

Hebrews 11:11-12 = By faith Abraham was enabled to become a father

Hebrews 11:29 = *By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as on dry land*

Hebrews 11:30 = *By faith the walls of Jericho fell*

Victories are won

Hebrews 11:32-34 = Faith of judges, kings and prophets

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What is Faith?

Hebrews 11:1 = *Faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see*
2 Corinthians 5:7 = *We live by faith, not by sight*

Notitia = Knowledge

Romans 10:1-3 = Israelites zeal is not based on knowledge

Romans 10:14-15, 17 = *Faith comes from hearing the message*

1 Timothy 4:6 = *... in the truths of the faith and of the good teaching ...*

Assensus = Assent (believe)

Romans 10:16-18 = Not all Israelites accepted ... of course they heard

Acts 17:32-34 = When told of the resurrection, some sneered and some believed

Ephesians 1:13 = After hearing the Word you believed and were marked with the Spirit

Fiducia = Trust

Romans 10:9-11 = Confess, believe and trust and you will be saved

2 Kings 18:5-7 = Hezekiah trusted in the Lord; he held fast and kept commands

Proverbs 3:5-6 = Trust in the Lord with all your heart ...

Jeremiah 17:5, 7 = Cursed is he who trusts in man; blessed is he who trusts in God

Faith - Picture Concepts

Three Hands = The 3 elements of an adult faith, Divine Drama picture and Tightrope Walker (pg 4)

Notitia = Knowledge

Assensus = Assent

Fiducia = Trust

Dead Wreath by Notitia = Knowledge alone does not constitute faith

Acts 24:22, 25-26 = Felix knew the truth but did not accept it

Dead Wreath by Assensus = Combination of knowledge and assent do not make faith

James 2:19 = Even Satan and his demons believe in God, but are not saved

Flowered Wreath by Fiducia = With knowledge, assent and trust, faith is born

John 14:1, 6-7, 11-12 = Trust in Jesus, knowing and believing in Him, and have powerful faith

White Flowers on Wreath = Faith gets purer as knowledge, assent and trust grow deeper and stronger

1 Peter 2:2 = Crave pure spiritual milk so your faith will grow

Spiral of light around upper hand = Faith is a gift of God

Ephesians 2:8 = *By grace you have been saved through faith, ... it is the gift of God*

Galatians 3:23-25 = Now that faith has come, we are no longer under the law

1 Corinthians 3:5-7 = Paul planted, Apollos watered, God made it grow

Closing Prayer

Distribute Materials = Hand out Study 12 and Assignment 13

Next Week - 1 & 2 *Thessalonians*

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Tightrope Walker

Have you ever heard about the guy who walked a tight rope across Niagara Falls? Many people watched him do it. To them he asked, "Do you believe I can walk a tight rope across the Falls?" They all replied, "Yes." They had already seen him do it.

Then he pushed a wheel barrow on a tight rope across Niagara Falls. When he completed the feat, he asked the onlookers, "Do you believe I can walk a tight rope across the Falls pushing a wheel barrow?" To that they replied unanimously, "Yes." Because they saw him do that too.

Finally, a buddy of the tight rope walker climbs into the wheel barrow and the tight rope walker pushes him across the fall. Wow, what a daring feat! When they finished, the tight rope walker asked the crowd, "Do you believe I can walk a tight rope across the fall pushing a wheel barrow with a person in it?" To that they exclaimed, "Yes!" For they were now believers in this guy's awesome abilities. Then he looked at the crowd and asked, "Who's next?" There you have it... Belief vs. Faith...



1 KNOWLEDGE

2 ASSENT

3 CONFIDENCE

From *Divine Drama*, H Wendt, 1983, Unit 21