

Are there any of the five reasons faith is a personal issue that you feel strong in? Is there any you struggle with?



What if we just started doing it and not only inviting them but actually showed them Gods effect in our own life? You know, what if we shared the Gospel and use words when necessary?

What if we showed a personal faith based relationship with God in our life that actually displayed the change in our life?

To be sent is not a special calling for just a few. It's a shared responsibility for all who believe. Romans 10 makes it clear that salvation is an opportunity that everybody is able to receive. But He has entrusted the responsibility to share His Gospel to us —His church.

The church does not exist to merrily gather believers. Yes, teaching strengthens the saved but reaching out to non-believers reaches the lost. Worship renews the Saints but evangelism rescues the sinner. Sharing our faith with those about to believe on Jesus can demonstrate Jesus patience for us as sinners and give them courage.

Keep speaking faith, keep declaring his promises, and keep barging on his greatness. Having faith ourselves, living it out and sharing it with others can show the love of Jesus. When others see the love of Jesus, it gives them courage to pursue a relationship with Him as well.

In your spiritual journal finish your letter from God. Write what God is saying to you on your heart. What is it about your faith is he saying to you?

Now that we reached the end of the group sessions re-read your letter altogether. Then take some time to pray to God your response to his letter to you.

**Going Forward**

*“For this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life.”*

1 Timothy 1:16

Our faith is not meant to be kept to ourselves. Our salvation is God's work but sharing the Gospel is our responsibility.

We could read this verse as; ‘But God had mercy on me so that Christ Jesus could use me as a prime example; even though I’m one of the worst sinners. Because of his great patience with me, others will realize that they too, can believe in him and receive eternal life.’

What if the only thing you could take with you to Heaven is that which you had given away?

Share your hope and faith with others. When others are suffering; sharing what we have in Christ is able to inspires joy in their heart. Even if you don't see anything happening; behind the seen things could be taking place.

What if ?

What if we made the responsibility of sharing our faith a personal issue? What if all of a sudden we started inviting those who are is close proximity to us to attend church?



The Least of These Ministries  
“A Works of Mercy Ministry”

**By Faith**



**In Short:**

- We can trust God wholly without fear.
- Faith is a personal issue.
- Our faith is not meant to be kept to ourselves.

**What Is Hope**

*“Isaiah says; ‘There shall be a root of Jesse; and He who shall rise to reign over the Gentiles, in Him the Gentiles shall hope.’ Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”*

Romans 15:13

In The New Strong's Concordance it states that the Greek word used here for “Hope” is “*ēlpis, el-pecé*; various applications: hope...confidence... expectation... Elpis as a noun in the NT, ‘Favorable and confident expectation, a forward look with assurance’ (Strong, 2010, pg. 85)

Both our faith and hope are inline with each other. Having faith gives us the hope of confident exceptions in the fulfillment of God's promises. There is a place in scripture where the word used for hope is actually translated as faith.

*“Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)”*

Hebrews 10:23

The Greek word being used here for faith is Elpis. Some manuscripts read *Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering*. We are being encouraged to press into our hope and faith. Even when we are experiencing a season of pain; it doesn't mean we have to live without hope.

Because our hope is the confident exception in the fulfillment of God's promises; even in the midst of suffering, our hope inspires joy in our believing hearts.

Our hope isn't where we are at right now, but in what is yet to come. Just because the current circumstance doesn't look like the promise that God gave you. It doesn't mean that one day if you keep pressing in, it's not going to get there.

What confident expectations do you have?  
Why does hope inspire joy?



**Boldness In The Day of Judgment**

*“Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because as He is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love.”*

1 John 4:15-18

By dwelling in love, and this having God dwelling in us, we gain the priceless assurance that we don't need to fear the coming judgment. We can trust God wholly, without fear, because the punishment for our sins has already taken place — through Christ.



Visit us at [www.theleastoftheseministries.com](http://www.theleastoftheseministries.com)

References:  
“Expanded Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible”, by James Strong, LL.D., S.T.D.  
The New Strong's (2010) by Thomas Nelson Publishers)

When Satan tempts us to despair and tells us of the guilt within; we can look to Christ who stood in our place at the cross to pay for all our sin. When we are standing before the throne of God we know that we have a strong and perfect plea. Jesus our savior is the great high priest who forever lives and pleads for us to God on our behalf.

Being united with Him in the likeness of His death, we will also be united with Him in His resurrection. Because of Christ we are now able to grow in our relationship with God. God tells us in His Word that we are continually in His sight and He has inscribed us in the palms of His own hands.

*“Can a woman forget her nursing child, and not have compassion on the son of her womb? Surely they may forget, yet I will not forget you. See, I have inscribed you in the palms of My hands; your walls are continually before Me.”*

*Isaiah 49:15-16*

There may come a time where we lose hope or have feelings of abandonment; because of the troubles we go through. But God will never abandon us. We can always find in Him the assurance of our hope as we dwell with and through His love.

Have no fear.

When we look to Christ we are able to find true rest, solace, and comfort. Because He is the one who intercedes for us and we know that He is the King of glory and of grace. He is our perfect, spotless lamb. The great unchangeable I Am!

Do you fear the day of Judgment? Why? What does solace mean? How does that relate to you and Christ?



## The Spirit of Faith

When it comes to our hope and faith the things we say will make an impact on our own ability's to run the race successfully. The Bible tells us that the spirit of faith is in connection to the words we use.

*“Since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, ‘I believed and therefore I spoke,’ we also believe and therefore speak, knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present us with you.”*

*2 Corinthians 4:13-14*

The reference of the *spirit of faith* is in reference to the spirit spoken about in 3:17. “Now the Lord is that Spirit...” who is the Holy Spirit, often designated by the effects He produces. In this case He is called the spirit of faith because He is the Spirit who produces faith.

Paul is saying to the Corinthians that the reason he continues to preach is because he has the same kind of faith the psalmist had when he said, “I believed in God, so I spoke,”

Being able to talk about our faith with others isn't an easy task and many times we are asked to press into our hope and faith during difficult times. The simple truth is we all go through difficult times and it always easier to talk about the problem then it is to talk about the solution. But the way we talk about it will have an impact on it's outcome.

I have personally experienced that God responds to our faith when we choose to not talk about how big the problem is but how big our God is. Saying things like “Yes, this problem is big, but I know my God is bigger.” Creating a sound of faith through victory not defeat; God is quick to answer.

Do you have faith that compels you to share your faith with others? Do you often create a sound of faith through proclamations of victory or defeat?



## Walking In Faith

Walking in faith is a personal experience for each of us. Faith can be taught, modeled, and invited but it can not be inherited. We have to respond to God personally.

### Five reasons why faith is a personal issue

1) Faith requires a personal response: Each person must respond to God for themselves.

*“That if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.”*

*Romans 10:9*

Being in church doesn't save you. Christ in you is what saves you. No matter how bad you want to save someone you cant. No one is saved by proximity.

2) Faith addresses a personal condition of the heart: Our faith displays an outward response to our inner condition.

*“A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings forth evil. For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.”*

*Luke 6:45*

Deep down our faith begins with who we are, not what we say and do. The true condition of our hearts will spill out into our words and deeds.

3) Faith involves a personal relationship with God: As in any truly loving relationship; God is inviting our consent to be with Him.

*“Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.”*

*Revelation 3:20*

God wants a genuine relationship with us. He is not going to force us to open the door of our heart. He is patiently standing at the door knocking; waiting for us to open our hearts to receive his love.

4) Faith leads to personal transformation: We are advised to take our transformation personally with a realization of it's seriousness.

*“...work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.”*

*Philippians 2:12*

This does not mean that we should work for our salvation in order to obtain it. We are to “work out” the salvation God has already grown in us. With God's help our faith will come about through our personal alliance with Him as we go through the life saving transformation.

5) Faith will be personally accounted for: Stepping out in faith is our own responsibility. No one can repent for us.

*“So then each of us shall give account of himself to God.”*

*Romans 14:12*

The day is coming when every believer will give account to God concerning why they did or did not do things. We will not answer as a nation or as a church. We will each answer as individuals giving explanations to God for our own actions.

