

Appealing LIFE

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

Pastor Kyle Chamberlain | Aug. 6th, 2023 Faith

- Faith is not the force or a formula
- Faith is God inspired <u>action</u> birthed out of confidence in the goodness of God.

"The Lord had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you. "I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you." So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Harran" (Gen. 12:1-5)

1. Faith starts to grow when we act on what we <u>believe</u>.

"faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead. 19 ... You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that—and shudder...20 faith without deeds is useless" (James 2:17-20)

2. Faith matures as we face <u>difficulties</u> and testing.

"When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to him and said, "I am God Almighty; walk before me faithfully and be blameless. 2Then I will make my covenant between me and you and will greatly increase your numbers." 3Abram fell facedown, and God said to him, 4"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You will be the father of many nations. 5No longer will you be called Abram; your name will be Abraham, for I have made you a father of many nations." (Gen. 17:1-5)



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- Don't mistake enthusiasm for faith.
- A lot have <u>starting</u> faith but we need to develop staying faith.
- There will always be the temptation to attempt to finish with <u>fear</u> what was started by faith.
- What hasn't been tested can't be trusted.

In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, 7that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, (1 Peter 1:6-7)

even when we are faithless he remains faithful (2 Tim 2:13)

Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. (Heb. 10:23)

And by faith even Sarah, who was past childbearing age, was enabled to bear children because she considered him faithful who had made the promise.

(Heb. 11:11)

3. The Starting point of faith is recognizing God's faithfulness.

