

Chapter 1 : Taking Faith Home | Milestones Ministry

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June 11, at My has been a stormy season for me. Last year, I met a man of God who made a difference â€” a man who made me see a different side of life. A man who saw me as how God sees me. A man who has given me the courage to believe in myself and to fight for my dreams. We both meant well and did our best to make things work. None of us wanted to hurt anyone anyway. And it was indeed painful â€” no, it was excruciating. And I have never been that broken before. Months passed and i now started to wonder if i really meant something to him. I am trying my best to keep going but everytime I do, things would then blow harder and make me take a step back again. As if a broken heart is not enough, financial struggles also came. Aside from that, God has also encouraged me to rebuild a long lost dream, a dream of studying in the premier state university in our country. It was a dream that seemed impossible for me but God kept leading me to try, and I did. So I did my best. Almost everything in my life right now is breaking my heart to pieces. I started to wonder if faith can really move mountains. I have a friend who has the gift of having visions and dreams. I was trying to take steps to the other side, but the wind going to the opposite side was so strong that my effort of moving forward seemed useless and the wind was destroying everything around me. In that dream, my friend was standing from afar, he was standing on a rock that looked like ivory, and a man on a brown cap was standing behind him. My friend was looking at me as i try to cross the bridge. I started crying and he heard it resound so loudly. I am constantly trying my best, to keep walking, to keep moving forward, even if some days all i can do is crawl. There were nights when I would get angry at God and speak honestly to Him, but the next day or a few days later, I would just find myself coming to Him again.

Chapter 2 : My Faith - Loving Life at Home

"High Regard" Barter and trade always passive aggressive Take a good hard look at what you see I've lost all my hope and all my faith Cause when I barely fuck up.

Answered Apr 30, I was indoctrinated from birth in Christianity and went to a Catholic high school. The more I got educated, the more I lost my faith. The more I read the bible the more I lost my faith. The more I saw of the hypocrisy of mankind, the more I lost my faith. The more history I read of the devastating effects of religion throughout history the more I lost my faith. The more science I learned, evolution, the age of the earth, the impossible physical claims of the bible the more I lost my faith. The more I hear from the faithful and their mincing of words, constant shifting, and unsubstantiated rationalisation, the more I lost my faith. The more I learn, the less faith I have. If the bible is the infallible word of god, why does it have so many inconsistencies and falsehoods? The creation story, the flood, tower of babel, the genocides and infanticides, the ordered murders, the virgin birth, the raising of the dead, the resurrection of the soul are all things that are made up. They are demonstratively false. If one of these men were somehow brought back to life and sat at my dinner table, my high school aged children would think them imbeciles. I do believe that anyone can believe anything they want, especially if it gives them comfort. Those feelings have explanations that have nothing to do with god or your soul. What the heck is a soul anyway? What organ houses it? And finally, when did belief in things that are unknowable, untestable, and unprovable become a virtue? Why is the characteristic of having faith something to be revered? The faithful believe they already have the answers. Therefore, why continue asking questions? Could you imagine if that was the world we lived in? And I fell in love with Jesus Christ too. He spoke to my soul, he opened my eyes to his presence and I found him captivating. He is real to me and His promises in His Word have been proven time after time to be true and trustworthy. The prophecies given in the bible have come true regarding world history and specifically the life of Christ. Abandoning your faith does not change anything about the author of that faith anyhow, it simply changes you and your relationship to God. Approval, was witnessed by hundreds of ordinary people as he walked on earth. Your feedback is private. Is this answer useful? Caleb Kerns , Yeah, helps if you read the holy book and listen to what people actually say Answered Jul 5, Well I can answer this because I did. Oh love God but also fear him. Believe in him blindly for no reason. Or that the people starving in Africa is because their government is corrupted by Satan. Nothing can make a true believer abandon their faith If I abandon my faith under any circumstance, I was never faithful to begin with I am a practicing Muslim and we are allowed to renounce our faith verbally if our lives are threatened but not abandon our faith. Once the situation is favorable, we continue being Muslims I hope I was able to answer my end of your question Peace!

Chapter 3 : Now is the Time to Take a Stand, in Unity | My Faith Votes

Through my study of these three passages, I had arrived at a simple, workable definition of faith: Faith is taking God at His word. I wasn't sure if I would ever have a report on all the book of Romans says about faith, but I knew that I had learned something that would prove to be very significant in my walk with God.

Here are some of its key features: Based on the Revised Common Lectionary used by many congregations Gives examples of each of the Four Key faith practices caring conversations, devotions, service, and rituals and traditions Includes a weekly prayer, Bible verse, mealtime prayer, and blessing. Offers suggested daily Bible readings and Hymn for the week How do you purchase it? It is as simple as going to the Milestones Ministry Store tab to order. Who is the audience? How can one resource serve such a diverse population? Not every part of TFH needs to be used by everyone. Adults tend to use the daily Bible readings though few do it without fail. One day is better than nothing and two is better than one Parents and grandparents use the weekly blessings and mealtime prayers with their children. Sometimes they even add the weekly prayer at bedtime. People on the go most of us! Couples, parents, and teen mentors are drawn to the Caring Conversations to bond relationships in faith Most everyone can take a glance and wonder how to use something from Devotions during the week Service ideas and Rituals and Traditions are great for families and youth groups alike Any part of it can work for small group ministries: There are lots of ways to use TFH in a congregation. One of the most important ways to get TFH used in congregations is to communicate an expectation that it is a wonderful resource for staff, other congregational leaders, and the homes of those connected to the ministry of the congregation. Here are some ways to raise the expectations: It reinforces the principle that if you want people to practice the faith at home, practice it together when people are at congregational events Check in with people. Do you take it home? Do you ever use it, and, if so, how? What stories can you share of how TFH has blessed your life and relationships? You will be amazed at what you learn and how people will move from knowing they should use it to being excited when they do. Enter into a short-term coaching relationship with Debbie Streicher or David Anderson to help your congregation implement a number of strategies that move TFH from being just another bulletin insert to a pearl of great value in the kingdom of Jesus Christ.

Chapter 4 : Faith in God - What it is & How to Have it Now

Look no further than the issues of gun control and immigration. Communities are being divided. What were once policy discussions and debates at the federal level have become tense, divisive and partisan lines drawn in the sand affecting our very communities.

Email I leave my love and blessing upon you, that you may feast upon the word of the Lord and apply His teachings in your personal lives. This has been an inspirational and historic conference. We look to the future with enthusiasm. We have been motivated to do better and to be better. The marvelous messages delivered from this pulpit by our General Authorities and General Officers and the music have been sublime! I urge you to study these messages, commencing this week. The new home-centered, Church-supported integrated curriculum has the potential to unleash the power of families, as each family follows through conscientiously and carefully to transform their home into a sanctuary of faith. I promise that as you diligently work to remodel your home into a center of gospel learning, over time your Sabbath days will truly be a delight. Changes in your family will be dramatic and sustaining. During this conference we have strengthened our resolve to execute the essential effort to honor the Lord Jesus Christ every time we refer to His Church. We know that our time in the temple is crucial to our salvation and exaltation and to that of our families. After we receive our own temple ordinances and make sacred covenants with God, each one of us needs the ongoing spiritual strengthening and tutoring that is possible only in the house of the Lord. And our ancestors need us to serve as proxy for them. Consider the great mercy and fairness of God, who, before the foundation of the world, provided a way to give temple blessings to those who died without a knowledge of the gospel. These sacred temple rites are ancient. To me that antiquity is thrilling and another evidence of their authenticity. I plead with you to take a prayerful look at how you spend your time. Invest time in your future and in that of your family. If you have reasonable access to a temple, I urge you to find a way to make an appointment regularly with the Lord—“to be in His holy house”—then keep that appointment with exactness and joy. I promise you that the Lord will bring the miracles He knows you need as you make sacrifices to serve and worship in His temples. Currently we have dedicated temples. The proper care and maintenance of those temples is very important to us. With the passage of time, temples are inevitably in need of refreshing and renewal. To that end, plans are now being made to renovate and update the Salt Lake Temple and other pioneer-generation temples. Details on these projects will be shared as they are developed. Today we are pleased to announce plans to construct 12 more temples. Those temples will be built in the following locations: Building and maintaining temples may not change your life, but spending your time in the temple surely will. To those who have long been absent from the temple, I encourage you to prepare and return as soon as possible. I leave my love and blessing upon you, that you may feast upon the word of the Lord and apply His teachings in your personal lives. I bless you to become exemplary Latter-day Saints. I so bless you and bear my testimony that God lives! Jesus is the Christ! This is His Church. We are His people, in the name of Jesus Christ, amen.

Chapter 5 : Taking Back Sunday - Faith Lyrics | MetroLyrics

highlight lyrics to add meaning You might lose your faith in science. You might lose faith in wealth. You might lose your faith in Jesus, or lose faith in yourself. But, when I let you down, look past your doubt. Just, please, please, don't lose your faith in me. You could lose faith in music, or.

Perhaps that is because Hebrews It is also the book and chapter that we can review for those heroes of faith, such as Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and others. The Bible uses the words faith and belief or believe interchangeably. Eternal life is received by grace through faith. Faith is the victory that overcomes the world and without faith it is impossible to please God 1 John 5: Take a look at these twenty popular Scripture quotes about faith: Featured Bible Verse Ephesians 2: And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. Much Faith Acts 6: When he came and saw the grace of God, he was glad, and he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast purpose, for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord. We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight. Little Faith Matthew 8: Jesus speaking to His Apostles Matthew But if God so clothes the grass, which is alive in the field today, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith! Jesus speaking Healing Faith Matthew 9: Be it done for you as you desire. And whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith. Saving Faith Acts I have learned my faith by standing firm amid severe testings. Take a look at these other similar type articles:

Chapter 6 : I've lost my faith in God. How do I get it back? - Quora

Chism and 3 others 1 hr Wow Take a look at the Stanford Yearbook I am a Iranian by birth and of my Islamic faith. I am also an American Citizen and I seek to help change America to be a more Islamic country.

Introduction 2 A few months ago I was walking across campus at Dallas Theological Seminary, and I saw a blind man making his way across a court yard. He was using a walking stick with confidence, and I stood for a moment and watched him walk just amazed at the resiliency of the human mind. Here this guy had basically memorized the layout of the campus, and he walks where he needs to go without seeing a thing. I turned to enter a building when it dawned on me that he was headed for a corner of campus where I knew there was a new construction site. I turned around and wondered if he knew it was there. A few more moments showed that he did not. I ran across the courtyard just as he walked into one of those plastic orange fences that surround these kind of projects. It was obvious he was confused. I explained what was going on, and he asked me to walk him back to the court yard. He could get to where he was going from there. When I asked him where he was going, he said that he intended to walk down the block to the corner. I took a quick look down the block and suggested I walk him to where he needed to go because there was a bucket loader parked in the middle of the side walk working on some power lines. His little walk to the corner would have ended in disaster. These two little balls of fluid nestled into sockets in my head mean the world to me. I think I would rather lose a finger than lose my eyes. These eyeballs are a wonder of engineering. You think your digital camera is complex. Think for a moment about all the parts of your eye: Take a look at the room around you, and notice the colors, notice the seamless way you perceive depth, think about how your eye reacts to light, how it focuses almost instantaneously. It is simply unbelievable what God has made. If you are ever at a loss for things to praise God for, stop and think about your eyes. A Serious Limitation But as powerful as your eyeballs are, they have one significant limitation. Every single eye in this room has a fatal flaw. Your eyes can only see physical reality. Every eye in this room is limited to seeing physical things: These things are all physical, and they are the only part of reality accessible to our eyes. Our eyeballs are completely useless when it comes to perceiving spiritual reality. Purpose of This Sermon I want to try to persuade you that as valuable as your physical eyesight is, you have a set of spiritual eyes that are even more valuable. Not only do you have spiritual eyes, but you must use them if you want to live a life that finds its satisfaction in God. Every human being has spiritual eyes. God gave them to us so that we could apprehend the spiritual realities of life. Sadly, those who have not trusted Christ are completely blind spiritually. Paul wrote in 2 Corinthians 4: But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled only to those who are perishing, among whom the god of this age has blinded the minds of those who do not believe so they would not see the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God 2 Corinthians 4: They cannot see unless the Holy Spirit gives them sight. Often our spiritual vision is blinded by the glare of what our physical eyes see. I want to convince you that it is more important to make sure your spiritual eyes can see clearly than almost anything else you do. I want to do that by thinking with you through Psalm Exegesis Psalm 73 is what students of the Bible call an individual song of thanksgiving or a wisdom Psalm. In this Psalm, a single author stands before a congregation of gathered worshipers and gives praise to God for delivering him from some difficult circumstance. The testimony time has multiple purposes. First, the psalmist wants to thank God for deliverance; second, he wants to provide a warning to others about what almost happened to him; third, he wants to encourage his listeners to greater faith in God. Psalm 73 begins with a summary of his theology. Certainly God is good to Israel, and to those whose motives are pure Psalm This statement represents his settled conviction after the trouble he recounts in the Psalm. He states his conclusion here as a preview. The image you should have in your mind is a group of people gathered together for a time of testimony. I almost lost it out there; I almost wasted my life. He says, But as for me, my feet almost slipped; my feet almost slid out from under me For I envied those who are proud, as I observed the prosperity of the wicked Psalm The Wicked in All Their Glory He took those two little eyeballs of his, and he focused them on the proud and wicked around him and what he saw made him envious. Why was he envious? Well, just look at them! For they suffer no pain; their bodies are strong and

well-fed. They are immune to the trouble common to men; they do not suffer as other men do Psalm These people are healthy! If they get sick, they have access to the best medical care. They can afford all the pain-killers they need. They are well fed, they shop at the best super-markets, and eat at the best restaurants. They can afford the best security systems to protect them from the trouble the rest of us have to live with. These people have it made! But their comfortableness is not limited to physical comforts. They are emotionally secure as well! Arrogance is their necklace, Their prosperity causes them to do wrong; their thoughts are sinful. They mock and say evil things; they proudly threaten violence. They speak as if they rule in heaven, and lay claim to the earth Psalm A Striking Caricature Talk about confident. These guys are the epitome of swagger. Because they have so much, they act with impunity, without regard for consequences. They speak their mind, and if they must, they use violence in their negotiations. They think they own the joint and can do what ever they want. Verse 9 is a magnificent caricature. This is an ancient 3 image that describes their insatiable appetites. To make matters worse, everyone likes these people. Not only are these men healthy and wealthy, but they have the adulation of the masses. They are all the rage! The Hebrew here is difficult, but I think the point is that people are attracted to them and are led into a similar lifestyle by them. People follow them and want to be like them. Their behavior emboldens the crowds to reject God as well. Talk about negative examples. So with a cry of protest the psalmist concludes the description of what his physical eyeballs could see. Take a good look! This is what the wicked are like, those who always have it so easy and get richer and richer Psalm A Disturbing Conclusion I say this is a cry of protest, and not a shrug of resignation because the psalmist knows in his heart that something is not right. He recognizes what his eyes are showing him, but he is in conflict because he understands that this is not the way the world should be. His sense of justice, and faith in God, tell him that the wicked should get what they deserve: What the psalmist saw was powerful enough to cause a crisis of faith! This guy is actually questioning his approach to life and is beginning to regret the fact that he has heretofore been committed to a life of purity! Behold the power of what your physical eyes see. Understand that these two little balls of goo stuck in your head are actually capable of causing you to doubt your faith. In verses , you are witnessing the psalmist right on the edge of destruction. He mentioned, in verse 2, that he had almost slipped; well, here it is. His foot is just about to step on the proverbial banana peel. Behold the power of what your eyes see. This is a man in turmoil. What holds him back may surprise you. If I had publicized these thoughts, I would have betrayed your loyal followers. When I tried to make sense of this, it was troubling to me Psalm This man is part of a community. He knows he is not an island.

God puts dreams in our hearts and writes a destiny over our lives. And if we trust Him enough to take Him at His word, we will find ourselves on a journey toward the fulfillment of that dream.

This is attempting to understand God based on what you see with your eyes, hear with your ears, smell with your nose, taste with your tongue, or touch with your hand. Please understand me as I say this to you. That does not mean that we are not allowed to have any feelings, we all do. We all have feelings based on what we have chosen to think and thereby judge and define in our world and life experience day by day, hour by hour and minute by minute. If you are attempting to live your religious and spiritual life based on how you feel, you are choosing to walk down a very false and dangerous path. Many times people forget that senses change, emotions change, and everything that they can experience with their five senses changes. Any time you allow your senses to dictate to you where you are with God, you have already lost the battle to Satan and his workers, called demons. For instance, if someone says, "I felt like the Lord really heard by prayer that time. The real truth is that most Christians feel like He does not hear them, MOST of the time, so you always end up having doubt in the back of your mind, ready to devour you at its first opportunity. Let me say it again, being caught or stuck in what you experience through your senses destroys the faith of many people. They are busy looking to the circumstances. In the things of God, you have to learn to fly by instruments only. Airline pilots have to go through training as they learn how to fly, where they strictly learn how to fly a plane by "Instruments" ONLY. The flight instructors put the new pilots into "flight simulators," and the new pilots are forced to go through practice flights in which they cannot see where they are going. They have to rely on their instruments ONLY. Any pilot will be happy to share with you how his first sessions in one of those flight simulations affected him or her. He or she will tell you that the moment you cannot see anything, you lose all points of reference, like suddenly going blind while driving your car at high speed down the freeway. They have to LEARN HOW to trust, have confidence in, and believe that they will arrive safely at their destination, that the instruments will get them to where they need to go, safely. Well, folks, we need to learn how to fly "by instruments. It gives you all of your readings, all of your settings. The old saying, "Seeing is believing" is not true in the things of God. We simply must learn that what is UNSEEN is just as real as what we think we see with our physical eyes -- that we believe is real. In 2 Corinthians 4: When you use your faith, in essence, you transfer them from the spirit realm to the physical realm, and they change from being "unseen things" to things your five sense can experience. Let us look at another example. There are many people who say that certain things, such as sickness and disease, do not exist. They say that it is a matter of mind, that there is problem with your mind. They say that if you can adjust your mind, change your thinking, that the sickness you think you see, physically will go away. If anyone know whether that idea is true or not, God know. If there really is not any such thing as sickness and disease, then why does it say in 1 Peter 2: Remember, we are not asked to believe that what we experience here is NOT real. We think and experience it as VERY real. Have you, for instance, within the last couple of days even, allowed yourself to but into the sickness or illness of others around you? You cannot have it both ways at the same time. If you are busy verifying either your own sickness and illness or for the illness and sicknesses of other people, you are NOT motivating them to walk and live by Faith. How do we know this is true? Well, it is very simple folks. If you were walking by faith, you would have been asking them about how they had prayed for their healing. Did they pray in the right way? You might even perhaps ASK if they had seen a doctor to find out what was really wrong before they prayed, and help them claim their healing, and then both of you five thinks for the healing that they received, and even help them to BELIEVE they are healed until the healing is manifested into their lives. But one thing is for sure, you would not sit and discuss shared symptoms, how much they hurt, how much they disable you, etc. It then leads you to think about your visual perception, what you see with your eyes. What about the things we can hear, the things we can touch, etc. So now, let us go back and look at 2 Corinthians 4: That is why, Paul tells us in Romans Faith then, comes by hearing the Word of God. But not even hearing it is enough is it???

You have to do what the Word of God tells you to do. Let us change, just for a moment, so that we can

understand what the scripture is really telling us. Let us word it as it is really speaking to us here: For we walk by Faith i. It will change the circumstances of your life. Let us look again at Matthew Peter asks Jesus if it really Him, can he, Peter, come to Him. Notice what Jesus says to Peter: Folks, if you can take five steps on the water, you can take 5, steps on the water. Peter takes his focus, his attention off of Jesus and looked at the Wind and the Waves. Whenever we walk by our senses, it will cause you to walk in fear. When we allow FEAR to dwell in our minds, faith leaves us. He could not be born again yet, because Jesus had not yet died or risen from the dead. So here is Peter. He has taken his focus, his attention off Jesus and: The wind and the waves are in the realm of the physical world where our bodies are located. Whenever you hear the Word of God, faith will come to you. At this point we ALL have a choice. You can believe your senses i.

Chapter 8 : Stop Trying To Feel God. Practice Your Faith Walk.

*With Ramadan now over, I take a look back at the reasons I've had to justify my faith in Islam over the years (blog.quintoapp.com/heism) submitted 4 years ago * by ConsideringLeaving I feel like things are snowballing on my way to disbelief, despite not wanting it to and still trying to fight it.*

So my first and most important bit of advice I can think of here is: Now I can just offer possible advice if you feel any of this applies to you. Go inward like David does in the Psalms: You know what you can do though? Maybe even start writing letters to God pouring out your frustrations over it and seeking peace. What do you think David or Job were doing? And then you should also go outward to friends, family, prayer, etc. Maybe even find friends who still believe but have experienced the same thoughts you are having now and inquire what led them out of it and helped them. I can only speak to my own experience. My greatest doubts of God were not even intellectual doubts. I had those a long time ago it feels like now But it was those intellectual doubts Is there evidence for the Bible? How do we know God exists? The real doubts that I still struggle with today came in the form of the heart rather than the mind. What if God does not exist and we really are just momentary specks in an indifferent universe? The answer is no, I cannot. What will then happen, I am sure, is I will let the possibility of doubt be sufficient to giving up on faith and then I will proceed to, like a good human being, find any excuses and justifications that have a chance at sounding reasonable even if they truly are not to responding to this "evidence" I am reminding myself of now. And I can play this possibility game where you can doubt anything that CAN be doubted with anything. So why I am experiencing these thoughts? What led me here? I now know they are not truly reasonable doubts but why have them? Why is it so hard to remove them if even intellectual honesty cannot remove them either? The answer lies in the heart that is still being transformed probably until I die. But the only way that can happen is if you let Him do it. And if it was recent, how often do you do it? In fact, I would assume you will make that prayer and still feel nothing So if you feel nothing, that really should not deter you. Keep doing it and eventually you might be surprised what starts to happen in your life. And that would be just one area. Again, this is supposed to be a lifestyle, commitment, and relationship. This is why I feel like I even understand many atheist critiques. Sometimes I have thought of a specific doubt long before any critic of Christianity brought it up, because I was already doubting without their help. But doubt is not GOOD but rather a reminder of what remains broken in us no matter what our own efforts have attempted to fix. We think we need to show God or ourselves we have faith rather than let God work in us. But choosing to do the latter will only keep improving the former. Since that time you have learned a lot, including that you are now missing it. It then gave you comfort, guidance and support, in accord with who God found you to be then. The faith that you will now find in time, as you keep searching for it, and as you keep asking God for it, will be different. It will be new, likely deeper, more encompassing, stronger, and in accord with the place where God meets you this time. You may well have it already and just not recognize it, because it does not give you that feel it did then, as you remember it. Let God create something new in you! Surrender to Jesus, even your lack of faith in Him, as you perceive the lack to be. God will show you great things, you can now cannot know.

Chapter 9 : Acts Bible Study: Faith

Putting faith in God might look like you obeying what God asks you to do and even when it feels like you won't have enough money, trusting that God will provide for your needs. Stop Taking.

Believing The Truth Faith is believing in what is true. Faith has two elements: While faith requires being convinced that what we believe in is true, just knowing the truth is only half of faith. For belief to be faith, it must light on what is certainly true. Yet Scripture gives examples of situations where belief alone is required, even commanded. God even requires us to believe in him when, temporarily, the evidence looks bad: Faith is the state of being convinced about what we hope for. New-Age Faith Eze The state of mind which desperate desire working on a strong imagination can manufacture is not faith in the Christian sense. It is a feat of psychological gymnastics. Belief detached from the truth is not faith. Believing in what is not from God, not true, believing in "the word of your own imagination", or even the "word of Satan", is deception pure and simple. Calling this deception "faith" does not make it so. So goes the popular chant. What you believe is not important. What is overlooked in all this is that faith is good only when it engages truth; when it is made to rest upon falsehood it can and often does lead to eternal tragedy. For it is not enough that we believe; we must believe the right thing about the right One. For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie. Faith never means gullibility. Credulity never honors God. The red corpuscles are like faith: The white cells are like discernment: In the healthy heart there must be provision for keeping dead and poisonous matter out of the life stream. This the credulous person never suspects. He is all for "faith". And Us Rom I will not believe it. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe. Believing The Gospel Truth Col 1: This is the Gospel itself, which has reached you as it spreads out all over the world. I can tell that man what is going to happen to him in the next few weeks. There will come a moment when there is bad news, or he is in trouble, or is living among a lot of other people who do not believe it, and all at once his emotions will rise up and carry out a sort of blitz on his belief. Or else there will come a moment when he wants a woman, or wants to tell a lie, or feels very pleased with himself, or sees a chance of making a little money in some way that is not perfectly fair: Make sure that, if you have once accepted Christianity, then some of its main doctrines shall be deliberately held before your mind for some time every day. That is why daily prayers and religious reading and churchgoing are necessary parts of the Christian life Do not most people simply drift away? For if the message given through angels proved authentic, so that defiance of it and disobedience to it received appropriate retribution, how shall we escape if we refuse to pay proper attention to that greater salvation which is offered us? For this salvation came first through the words of the Lord himself. But steer clear of these unchristian babblings, which in practice lead further and further away from Christian living. For their teachings are as dangerous as blood-poisoning to the body, and spread like sepsis from a wound. Hymenaeus and Philetus are responsible for this sort of thing, and they are palpable traitors to the truth What you heard from me, keep as the pattern of sound teaching, with faith and love in Christ Jesus. Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you, guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit that lives in us. Abraham, an Example of Faith Rom 4: He relied on the word of God which definitely referred to "thy seed". Yet he refused to allow any distrust of a definite pronouncement of God to make him waver. He drew strength from his faith, and, while giving the glory to God, remained absolutely convinced that God was able to implement his own promise. Faith is to be reckoned as righteousness to us also, who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, who was delivered to death for our sins and raised again to secure our justification. And we must not select a few favorite passages to the exclusion of others. Nothing less than a whole Bible can make a whole Christian. Until we believe that we are really as bad as God says we are, we can never believe that He will do for us what He says He will do. Right here is where popular religion breaks down. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will save it. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this? As God calls each Christian to "die to self" and promises "new life", the flesh protests: Think constantly of his enduring all that sinful men could say against him and you will not lose your purpose or your courage. A Life Of Faith Heb He

considered the "reproach of Christ" more precious than all the wealth of Egypt, for he looked steadily at the ultimate reward. You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised. For in just a little while, "He who is coming will come and will not delay. But my righteous one will live by faith. And if he shrinks back, I will not be pleased with him. We are persecuted, but are never deserted; we may be knocked down but we are never knocked out! Everyday we experience something of the death of Jesus, so that we may also show the power of the life of Jesus in these bodies of ours. The outward man does indeed suffer wear and tear, but every day the inward man receives fresh strength. These little troubles which are really so transitory are winning for us a permanent, glorious and solid reward out of all proportion to our pain. For we are looking all the time not at the visible things but at the invisible. The visible things are transitory: This is no accident--it happens to prove your faith, which is infinitely more valuable than gold, and gold, as you know, even though it is ultimately perishable, must be purified by fire. He gives the security of his own promise to all men And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God; I myself will see him with my own eyes--I, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!