



TWCC Sermon Connection Handout

Sunday, December 15th, 2019

Sermon Series: FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT OF FAITH

Sermon Title: Big Hinderances to Fighting the Good Fight of Faith – Part 2

Opening Scripture Text: 1 John 5:1 - 5 (KJV) – *“1Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him. 2By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments. 3For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous. 4For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. 5Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?”*

- We shared last week that Faith is our _____! The experience of _____ is done through the exercise of our _____ in God. **2 Corinthians 5:7 (NKJV)** – *“For we walk by faith, not by sight.”*

FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT OF FAITH!

- We are here to learn how to: walk by faith, talk by faith and respond by faith - in other words, we do things like God does it - by _____!
- **1 Timothy 5:12 (NKJV)** - *“Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.”*
- The *only* option to _____ fighting the good fight of faith is to be _____ and _____. It is our decision to fight or not. Faith is a FORCE; but Faith is a _____!
- The big **CHOICES** are: (1) To _____ in the Lord and (2) to _____ (hold fast) your CONFESSION of FAITH.
 - **Believing in the Lord: Read Genesis 15:1 – 6 (KJV)**
 - _____ in the Lord is a _____ to _____ GOD based on Who said it and promised it and His character, His ability, reliability and faithfulness.
 - **Hebrews 11:6 (KJV)** – *“But without faith it is impossible to please Him: for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.”*
- **We are to BELIEVE: (1) God is [exists]** – Worrying, wavering and wondering doesn’t believe that God knows or care; it is temporary atheism so to speak. To **DOUBT** God is to judge God and deem Him unfaithful, unreliable and undependable in character and nature. **(2) We are to BELIEVE God is a rewarder**, not a robber. BELIEVE that God will bring His knowledge, power, strength and ability to bear in your life and on your behalf.
- **We can make a CHOICE not to believe or to believe.** (Example: **Read Genesis 45:24 – 28 (KJV)**).
- **How do you know you are BELIEVING in the Lord and in FAITH BELIEVING to RECEIVE?** When you’re in FAITH BELIEVING it will be evidenced by: (1) _____ and (2) _____. Choosing not to BELIEVE will result in your heart fainting and you being unstable and wavering.
- **Romans 15:13 (KJV)** – *“Now the God of hope fill you will all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost.”*

- **4 Desired Qualities of a Christian Believer:** (1) Quick to Forgive (2) Quick to Repent (3) Quick to Believe and (4) Quick to Obey.
- **Luke 24:25 (KJV)** – “Then He said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken.”
 - Think of it: (1st) Instead of FAITH it is FOOLISHNESS and (2nd) Instead of being QUICK to BELIEVE; it is SLOW OF HEART to BELIEVE.
 - Simply put, you’re either in FAITH or in FOOLISHNESS or in PRESUMPTION.
- Friends, to reiterate the point, living by FAITH entails and involves _____. If you’re not _____ you may not be in FAITH.
- **2 Timothy 4:7 (NKJV)** - “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.”

BIG HINDERANCES TO FAITH

- If there is a _____ to faith, then there must be enemies or _____ to faith.
- **Romans 10:17 (KJV)** – “So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.”
- Lack of _____ come from lack of knowledge of God’s Word. Why? Because _____ is based upon knowledge – revealed knowledge of God and His Word. Where our _____ of the Word stops, our _____ stops. _____ begins where the Will of God is known.
- A lack of knowledge will _____ us and hold us in bondage because we cannot ACT upon God’s Word beyond actual knowledge of God’s Word. **IF YOUR FAITH IS NOT GROWING, THEN YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORD IS NOT GROWING!**
- **HINDERANCE #1: LACK OF UNDERSTANDING REGARDING THE NEW _____.**
 - The first hinderance to faith is lack of understanding of what it means to be a new creation (creature) in Christ, or a lack of understanding of what the new creation means.
 - **2 Corinthians 5:17 (NKJV)** – “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.”
 - A lack of understanding of what the new creation is and what it means to be a new creature can _____ the believer’s faith life.
 - We are new creatures, created by God in Christ Jesus, with the very life and nature of God in our spirits (**2 Corinthians 5:17**). We are children of God, sons of God, and heirs of God – joint heirs with Jesus Christ (**Read Romans 8:17**).
 - Many people don’t know that they have _____ LIFE. They think of themselves only as being saved from sin. **1 John 5:13 (NKJV)** – “These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.”
- **HINDERANCE #2: LACK OF UNDERSTANDING OF OUR _____ IN CHRIST.**
- The second hinderance to faith is a lack of understanding of our place in Christ and of Christ’s place in our lives. For example, read **1 John 4:4 (NKJV)** and **Colossians 1:13 (NKJV)** and **Galatians 2:20 (NKJV)**.
- **HINDERANCE #3: LACK OF UNDERSTANDING REGARDING OUR _____.**
- The third hinderance to faith is a lack of understanding of righteousness – what it is and what it gives to the believer. A lack of understanding of righteousness holds more people in bondage than anything else.
- **Read 2 Corinthians 5:21 (NKJV)** and **James 5:16 (NKJV)** and **1 John 1:9 (NKJV)**
- As God’s Righteousness we are to and should _____ the bountiful fullness of God.
- **HINDERANCE #4: LACK OF UNDERSTANDING REGARDING OUR RIGHT TO USE THE NAME OF _____.** The fourth hinderance to faith is the lack of understanding of our privilege and right to use the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ. This lack of understanding will hold us in bondage and will give us a sense of weakness. But when we know what that Name will do, we can take our rightful position of authority over Satan and enjoy _____. **Read John 14:12 – 14 (KJV); John 16:23, 24 (KJV)** and **Mark 16:15 – 18 (KJV).**
