

## Chapter 1 : What Are Faith and Trust?

*How Faith Leads to Trust, Dena Johnson Martin - Read more about spiritual life growth, Christian living, and faith. I've developed a faith in God "a belief that he is able.*

Faith is a confident, loyal belief in the truth, value, or trustworthiness of a person, an idea, or a thing. It does not rest on logical proof or material evidence. For synonyms for faith, go to words for belief. In what ways do these words describe how God is toward you, or how you are toward God or toward the gospel message? It can go untested for long periods of time, but life will eventually put it to the test. It can be strengthened and it can become weak. Weak faith leads to fear and inaction. You can pray that God will give more faith to you or to someone else. When these ways of trying to save ourselves falter -- and they will -- we may see ourselves as cursed, even eternally damned. Only God can create it in us. It does not spring forth from our inmost self, no matter how much spirituality we practice or how many loving deeds we do. It comes from outside of us and then lodges itself inside of us. We have only what is given to us by the Holy Spirit. It grasps us, shapes our passions, travels all over our internal systems, and redefines who we are. In that way, it becomes truly our own. Faith trusts God to forgive us. It trusts that God will make us holy. It trusts that God will make us effective. Our allegiance is to the God who does not abandon us. Faith is what the Spirit uses to light the fires within you. When the Holy Spirit gets to work inside of you, the Spirit causes an internal revolution. The Spirit works overtime to lead us to be obedient Romans 8: The Spirit does this through faith. Faith is related to promise. Think of it this way: Without some sort of a promise, what do you trust? The Letter To the Hebrews, chapter 11, recounts how the greats of ancient Israel acted powerfully on faith. That Someone is Christ, who is there thanks to what the Spirit does in you. Current fact does not define our future. The evidence of history is that if you fully trust God, you get executed -- Peter, Paul, Stephen, numerous prophets, numerous martyrs, and most of all Jesus. What kind of a worthless God is that? The Christian claim, however, is that after being executed, Jesus returned from the dead, and continues to be at work today. If that is true, then God really has decided to act, spurred by divine love for us. A Christian is someone who trusts that this is so. Within moments, those at the scene understood what this cross meant: No theologian had to interpret. No translators were needed. It marked not just a burial plot, but sacred ground. I was surprised at how many agnostics, atheists, Buddhists, Jews and even hard-edged media types got the point of such a Christian symbol. Whether they wanted to or not, what they often created was a photocopy of their own belief system, followed by attempts by the new believers to amend their lives on their own strength. Over time, that passes, but it can take generations for the effect to go away. The soul does not really know it is freed from the prison of sin. It still acts as if it must saw away at the shackles and dig a hole out of prison, and then follow a sketchy set of blueprints to make an exit. The good news is that the cell door is already open, the guards have fled, and the shackles are off of their moorings. All the work has already been done by someone else, and the coast is clear. Christ engineered this jailbreak for you. Have you escaped yet?

*Living a Life of Faith - Six Aspects of Faith I would like to speak to you today about one of the most important areas in our walk with the Lord and that is our Faith, Trust and Confidence in God.*

Faith and Trust when you have Hepatitis C is not always easy. Dealing with Hep C diagnosis, searching for treatment and holding onto to hope for a new life free from Hep C, every patient has walked this road. Hep C knows no boundaries, it does not hold back from race, sex, religion, social status, rich or poor, or country. Hep C like any other serious health condition causes you to look on the inside out of life. I had to look beyond the moment. Beyond getting back up and moving forward. For me, living beyond Hep C had to begin on the inside out. It had to begin with a foundation of faith and trust in God, in Jesus Christ and His plan for living beyond Hepatitis C. I had a choice to believe I was going to win over Hepatitis C no matter what. I could see fear. I could see failed treatment. But I chose to see that God was bigger than it all. God would either heal me while I was on this earth, directly by his hand or through medical means, or He would heal me by taking me to heaven because I believe His ultimate sacrifice for me through Jesus His only Son who died for me. Either way, I was a winner. Victorious over Hep C. Cowman, edited by Jim Reimann. The first is being able to believe only when we see some sign or have some strong emotion. Like Gideon, in the Bible Judges 6 , we feel the fleece and are willing to trust God if it is wet. This may be genuine faith but it is imperfect. It is continually looking to feelings or some other sign instead of the Word of God. We have taken a great step toward maturity when we trust God without relying on our feelings. It is more of a blessing when we believe without experiencing any emotion. While the first level of faith believes when our emotions are favorable, the second believes when all feelings are absent. And the third level transcends the other two, for it is faith that believes God and His Word when circumstances, emotions, appearances, people and human reason all seem to urge something to the contrary. May God grant us faith to completely trust His Word, even when every other sign points the other way. When is the time to trust? Is it when friends are true? Is it when comforts woo, and in all we say and do, we meet but praise? Is it some future day, when you have tried your way, and learned to trust and pray by bitter woe? Poor, troubled soul, make speed to trust your God. Is it when hopes beat high, when sunshine gilds the sky, and joy and ecstasy fill all the heart? For the time to trust is when our joy has fled, when sorrow bows the head, and all is cold and dead, all else but God. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Share your comments below.

### Chapter 3 : My favorite bible verses on faith

*by Jim Haeffele Faith is trust, assurance and confidence in God. Living faith is shown by service and obedience to God. God will increase our faith if we fervently ask and draw close to Him.*

And when faith is strong the results are huge – joy and peace Rom So here are 10 verses to help you understand and grow in faith – Genesis Instead – trust Jesus to make you welcome before God. He can – and will. Everyone has faith in something – we all rely on something to secure and satisfy us. So ask yourself – what are you trusting – really – to secure and satisfy you? Faith means turning from whatever I used to trust to satisfy me – and trusting Jesus to satisfy me. He is the only bread of life. When I come to Him, trusting Him to fully satisfy me in Himself, my every heart hunger and thirst will be satisfied – not in what He gives, but in who He is. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. We are not saved by works – trying to impress God with our goodness. We are saved by faith alone – trusting all that God promises to be to us in Christ Jesus. For Abraham, faith meant trusting God to do what He promised. God has given us five main categories of promises – to satisfy us fully and forever in Himself John 6: Bring it to Jesus – He will strengthen you. How does God give us faith? And strengthen our faith? Satan constantly shoots flaming darts at us – darts of worry, lust, discouragement, bitterness. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. Obedience flows naturally from faith – because whatever I trust the most to satisfy me, I desire the most – and whatever I desire the most, I obey. If I trust money the most – I will obey money. If I trust Jesus the most – I will obey Jesus. When you do – you will desire Jesus the most, obey Jesus the most – and be satisfied the most. Because He IS your heart-satisfying Treasure. If you would like to meet and interact with others who are living by faith, visit our Forums page. I will only use your email address for Living By Faith Blog emails – and you can easily unsubscribe at any time.

## Chapter 4 : Sermon Illustrations

*Faith is the ability to trust what we cannot see, and with faith we are freed from the flimsy enclosures of life that only fear allows to entrap us. John Emmons. The true, living faith, which the Holy Spirit instills into the heart, simply cannot be idle.*

Ruth showed loyalty to her mother-in-law, Naomi, and her God. Her husband, along with his family, had moved to Moab because of a famine in the land of Judah. Her mother-in-law, Naomi, also a widow, was the only one of the original family still living. So Naomi decided to return to Judah, since she heard the famine was over Ruth 1: Her two daughters-in-law were now faced with a choice. Naomi urged them to return to their families in Moab, for Naomi had no more sons to give them as husbands, and thus no security for the future to offer them. One of her daughters-in-law, Orpah, reluctantly followed that advice and went back to her family and her Moabite gods. But Ruth made a vow in devoted faithfulness to Naomi, a vow that is famous for its graciousness: Where you die, I will die, and there will I be buried. Ruth forsook her homeland, her people and the gods of Moab. She left it all to lead a new life in a land where she would be a stranger. Ruth chose the God of Israel as her God. Ruth exhibited faithfulness, respect, devotion, love, friendship and humility. This was a vow of total commitment. This was a commitment even to death. She was burning her bridges behind her. So Ruth followed Naomi and came to Bethlehem in the land of Judah during the beginning of the barley harvest—early spring. Ruth went to work There was a law in Israel that benefitted the poor and the strangers in the time of harvest: You shall leave them for the poor and for the stranger: Both Naomi and Ruth were poor widows, and Ruth was also a stranger in the land. So if anyone had the right to glean in the fields, it would be Ruth. And so Ruth told Naomi she would glean in the fields, and she did so for the remainder of the harvest. Boaz showed remarkable kindness to a foreigner and spoke to Ruth the most encouraging words she could have heard: Rahab and her family had come into Israel as strangers and foreigners, and in time Rahab married Salmon. So Boaz would have known what his mother experienced—being a foreigner in Israel. The unique marriage proposal As the harvest season was coming to a close, Naomi wanted a better life and security for Ruth. So Naomi conceived a plan for Ruth to approach Boaz and propose marriage. Ruth obeyed her; and as Boaz slept on the threshing floor, she came and lay down next to his feet. It was the custom of the times in Israel that a near relative marry a widow so that the name of the family would not die out Deuteronomy Ruth trusted her mother-in-law that this action of proposing marriage needed to be done. It took courage and trust for Ruth to execute this bold plan, as she just thought of herself as a lowly servant. Boaz pronounced another blessing upon Ruth when he heard her wedding proposal at the threshing floor: For you have shown more kindness at the end than at the beginning, in that you did not go after young men, whether poor or rich. And now, my daughter, do not fear. But there was a slight legal hitch in the proposed marriage. If the other male relative was willing to perform the duty of a close relative and marry Ruth, that relative would be the first to have that option. But if he would not, then Boaz could marry Ruth. And the story turned out well, for the close relative would not marry Ruth lest it would ruin his own inheritance. So Ruth obtained the desired end she had proposed: She got to marry Boaz. In time, Boaz and Ruth had a son, Obed. Naomi was able to become a nurse to Obed, and the women of Israel blessed the Lord for her happiness: And those who do well will reap the result of their actions. Boaz and Ruth had great respect for one another, as well as kind and uplifting words for each other. It is a good example of nobility and character. Ruth left her people, her family and her culture. Ruth vowed that she would not be parted from Naomi under an oath to the Lord. Things probably looked bleak for Ruth at times, but the mercy of God worked out all things for her. God will work out our future for us as well. We must also be willing to forsake all everything we have. Ruth forsook her pagan homeland and its pagan gods, and chose the true God as her God! All individuals of all nations can come to take refuge under the wings of the true God and to trust in Him. We need to follow her steps and allow God to be our God! Believing and Pleasing God.

**Chapter 5 : A Prayer for Trusting God in Hard Times - Prayer Help**

*He had to trust God with the outcome of that decision. By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.*

Living faith is shown by service and obedience to God. But just what is faith as described in the Bible, and does it really work? Faith confidence, belief, trust is also our evidence of that which is not seen—the invisible spiritual things. Faith comes before a prayer is answered or before an individual has received what he or she has requested from God. If we have received what we asked for, then faith is not needed. Our bimonthly Discern magazine covers issues like this regularly. Digital subscriptions are available worldwide; print subscriptions are currently available in the United States, Canada and much of Europe. A New Testament example An example of this definition is found in Matthew 9: It also gave them the evidence or trust that they would receive what they asked for. They believed; that is, they had faith in advance that it would be done. Those who refused to bow to the image were threatened with being thrown into a fiery pit alive. They did not know in advance how God would deliver them from the fiery furnace, whether at that time by saving their physical lives or later in the resurrection. Their faith or trust was the substance of what they hoped for, and it was the evidence of that which was not yet seen or received. Their faith or trust was built on serving God and obeying His commandments. They believed God would deliver them because they obeyed His commandments and did not bow down to worship any others gods. Faith without works is dead The apostle James, who was the half-brother of Jesus Christ, wrote in his epistle about what he called dead faith. Dead faith is when one believes in God, but does not obey His commandments. Even the demons believe—and tremble! But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead? James went on to use the example of Abraham, who had both faith and works because he believed God and he obeyed what God commanded him to do. Do you see that faith was working together with his works, and by works faith was made perfect? Real faith is more than just believing in God alone. Faith is increased by drawing closer to God through prayer and the study of His Word, the Bible. That is not the case. Paul clearly understood and wrote that no one could earn salvation and that faith itself is a gift from God. Like James, Paul knew living faith would be accompanied by service and obedience to God and His laws. Paul wrote in Romans 3: On the contrary, we establish the law. Another way faith is increased is by reading or hearing examples of faith in the Bible publicly expounded. This is mentioned in Romans When we read the Bible, our faith confidence and assurance in God and Jesus Christ to answer our prayers and bring us through impossible situations increases. To summarize, faith is trust, assurance and confidence in God and Jesus Christ. Living faith is not just believing that God exists. God will increase our faith if we fervently ask Him for it and seek to draw closer to Him in prayer and the reading of His Word. Learn more by downloading our free booklet Change Your Life!

**Chapter 6 : Belief, Hope, Trust and Faith - Happy Living**

*faith, trust and pixie dust. lifestyle blog with a sprinkle of spoken word and a focus on living a positive and grace-filled life.*

I believe there are six attributes of a person who lives by faith. Do Live by the Word Do you believe perception is reality? Perception is not always reality. You might perceive that a product you buy will do what it says it claims to do, only to discover it falls short. Sometimes we perceive things about God based on our experience versus what the Bible really says. The apostle Paul exhorts us to "live by faith, not by sight 2 Corinthians 5: God told Joshua to walk around the city 7 times by faith, not by his logic or reasoning. He had to live by the Word from God, not his perception of how illogical the command might have been for he and his troops. The Bible talks about obedience being better than sacrifice. So, live in the Word and obey His Word no matter what the perception is that might not be logical. Count things as though they have already happened" The Bible tells us that faith is living as though the goal has already been achieved. As it is written, "I have made you a father of many nations" in the presence of Him whom he believed-God, who gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did" Romans 4: We believe in the covenant promises of God more than in the Spirit dimension" awaiting the manifestation in the physical. We must claim His promises for our situations. Abraham was told simply to go, without know where he was going. He had to trust God with the outcome of that decision. By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. I wrestled with God over the logic of that invitation and the meeting. Once I obeyed, God opened many new and greater opportunities as a result of that obedience. Negative thinking produces negative outcomes. Fear can drive us to negative outcomes in life. It is a form of negative faith. I am not at ease, nor am I quiet; I have no rest, for trouble comes" Job 3: Meditate on These Things Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy-meditate on these things Philippians 4: There is Power in the Tongue God created the world by speaking it into existence Gen 1: And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light: And God saw the light, that it was good: And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day. And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters. And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day. And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear: Can you see that God spoke things into existence, that there is power in our words? Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit. Your audible words do carry power. God spoke the world into existence. Jesus spoke to the fig tree. Jesus tells us to speak to the mountain. So Jesus answered and said to them, "Have faith in God. Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them Mark One time God spoke to me on a Saturday morning a few months after I published a book. We had very limited sales. The words that came to me as I woke were, "Speak to your mountain of books! Go be a blessing to someone who needs to read these books. A covenant promise reveals what you know is His will, but you must pray it into existence. God has given us the Power of Attorney spiritually on the earth to bring Heaven on earth in the area of our calling. Os Hillman is the author of the 9 to 5 Window and Faith and Work: What every pastor and church leader should know.

**Chapter 7 : The importance of faith in everyday life - Campus Times - Campus Times**

*Living Beyond Hepatitis C is the hope for every Hep C patient. Faith and Trust when you have Hepatitis C is not always easy. Dealing with Hep C diagnosis, searching for treatment and holding onto to hope for a new life free from Hep C, every patient has walked this road.*

Sure, when is that? Sundown Friday to sundown Saturday. I realized I owed Rabbi Dwek a deep debt of gratitude for showing me the depth and genius and beauty of Torah. Stories and insights “connecting with Hashem through faith and trust. ArtScroll was publishing it. He promised to e-mail me an advance manuscript. I read it once, then again—and again—and again. I urge anyone looking for a Torah approach to positive thinking to do likewise. This kind of faith, he explains, is similar to that of an infant who finishes drinking a bottle and has no fear or anxiety about whether he will be given another one if he gets hungry later. Unfortunately, this level of faith is difficult to maintain, especially if one has been raised in an anti-religious culture. Rabbi Dwek gives an example that made me smile. In the former Soviet Union, a professor was drumming it into his students that a person should only believe what he can see with his own eyes. This was one of the tenets of Communism—in essence, denying the existence of the Creator. But a clever student hearing this whispered to his friend: We know the teacher has a mouth and a nose because we can see them. Does this man have a brain? One of the many examples he gives in his book made the hair stand up on the back of my neck: In , my wife was on her way to an engagement party in Baltimore. She was crossing Northern Parkway, a very busy street—when a year-old driver drove into her. Not only was my wife hit, she was thrown six feet into the air, and when she descended, the car fell on top of her. It was a horrific accident. Fortunately, a crowd formed and they lifted the car. Providentially, her doctor was on the other side of the street right then;—he gave her immediate medical care—. She was in the hospital for three weeks and soon after merited a full recovery. Having been hit by a car myself, I know this story is evidence of a huge miracle from Hashem. Perhaps most incredible of all, the rebbetzin completely recovered after 21 days in a hospital. Rabbi Dwek grew up in Aleppo, in the police state of Syria. During a particularly brutal pogrom, his mother and father were offered a place to hide in the house of a non-Jewish neighbor. Dwek, who was pregnant with baby Yitzchak at the time, must have been shaking in her shoes. On the way to school, Yitzchak would routinely be stopped by young Arabs demanding to know his nationality. Jewish boys like Yitzchak had to decide whether to lie in the hope of being left alone or tell the truth and suffer a beating. The anti-Semitism drove whole families to emigrate to America and the Dwek family Yitzchak was the fourth of ten children was fortunate to leave Aleppo in and settle in Brooklyn. According to Rabbi Dwek, escaping the horrors of Syria was another miracle from Hashem, with help from the Torah scholar who was then the rosh yeshiva of Mir, HaRav Avraham Kalmanowitz. After their marriage, he and his new wife moved to Deal. There he became chief rabbi at the Synagogue of Deal. He opened schools for Jewish children—preschool, elementary, and high school—in addition to Jewish summer camps. Learning that Rabbi Dwek had not had a fairytale life, especially in Syria, I wondered: Hashem therefore places us in situations of shame, disgrace, or embarrassment, which, when accepted with love, have the power to bring us to the World to Come free of sin. The Gemara Pesachim explains how to look at loss of treasured personal property: If someone sinned and is deserving of death, Hashem will make his prized possession, his animal, die; this way, he will receive his atonement without having to lose his life. Every punishment is sent from the top of the chain of command—from God. Therefore, when in fear for your life, cry to Hashem instead of trying to bargain with a brutal executioner. When we endure periods of difficulty, illness, or tragedy, we have a tendency to yearn for a less complicated and less painful life. If only we would realize that every smack we receive is a gift in disguise, we would embrace those moments of challenge and cherish them.

**Chapter 8 : Ruth - Life, Hope & Truth**

*The meaning, impact and interplay of faith, belief, and trust, within a life in which we must face change, betrayal, confusion, questions, and doubt.*

How to Live By Faith Habakkuk 2: This morning we want to continue with our series of lessons on practical Christianity. Faith is making real what cannot be seen or sensed with human faculties. Living by faith will take our life out of the natural and into the supernatural. The Christian life must be lived one step at a time. We must learn to trust our heavenly Father every step of the way. Living by faith is the most exciting life anyone could ever know. Saving Faith brings us into the family of God and sustaining faith keeps us there for the rest of our lives. Faith is not something we simply exercise at salvation and forget about. It is a lifelong process of spiritual growth. Faith is taking God at His Word no matter how bleak the circumstances appear to be. It is believing in His love and His character more than in human reason. Biblically speaking, faith is the same as believing. The act of faith is believing. The object of our faith is Jesus Christ. The Nature Of Faith A. True faith is the expression of belief in someone or something. Biblical faith involves belief in the death of Christ as a sufficient atonement for our sins. When we say that we believe in Christ we are claiming more than mere belief in His existence. We believe that His sacrifice on the cross was a sufficient payment for our sins. Christ is the object of our faith. He is a living Saviour, not merely a creed of belief. Thus, our relationship with Him is a personal one actualized by faith in Him. The Holy Spirit is the agent of our faith. He acts on behalf of Christ to plant faith in our hearts. The Spirit initiates the faith process by convicting us of our sins. He draws us to the Savior and regenerates the unbelieving heart. Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: The Holy Spirit uses the Bible to convict us of sin and bring us to faith in Christ. Jesus described the Word of God as a seed that germinates into faith in the human heart. The seed is the word of God. We are born again by the Word of God. The Evidence Of Faith. James urges us to show our faith by our works. He does not mean that we are saved by works. He means that an empty profession of faith cannot save anyone. Real faith will express itself in works of righteousness. He boldly declares that faith without works is dead James 2: Genuine faith will show itself in evidences of faith. Biblical examples of genuine faith are given in Hebrews Notice that faith is not a blind leap into the dark; it is substance and evidence. We can depend on it, and we can build our life on it. Notice what can be done by faith. Noah built an ark by faith. Abraham moved his family by faith. Jacob blessed his children by faith. Moses forsook Egypt by faith. Kingdoms were subdued, promises were obtained, and armies were put to flight-all by faith! Living by faith is what the Christian life is all about. But that they needed to exercise the faith they already had. Then it would grow. But faith that moved mountains does not come overnight. It involves learning to trust God for greater things. Living by faith means to develop a confident expectation in God. These are promises upon which we can build a life of faith. James also tells us to ask in faith. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. We can experience a life of faith. We must stop doubting and start trusting. We must put our faith into action. There is so much we can do for the cause of Christ if we will only do it.

**Chapter 9 : Choosing to Trust in God - Acts Church**

*Bible Quotes about Faith - It is so easy to face new failures and fears and to lose faith in God's plan for your life. We begin to question if God is real and if He cares about us. We begin to question if God is real and if He cares about us.*

Therefore seek not to understand that thou mayest believe, but believe that thou mayest understand. Faith has to do with things that are not seen and hope with things that are not at hand. Faith and works should travel side by side, step answering to step, like the legs of men walking. First faith, and then works; and then faith again, and then works again -- until they can scarcely distinguish which is the one and which is the other. God our Father has made all things depend on faith so that whoever has faith will have everything, and whoever does not have faith will have nothing. A pastor I know, Stephey Bilynskyj, starts each confirmation class with a jar full of beans. He asks his students to guess how many beans are in the jar, and on a big pad of paper writes down their estimates. Then, next to those estimates, he helps them make another list: When the lists are complete, he reveals the actual number of beans in the jar. The whole class looks over their guesses, to see which estimate was closest to being right. Bilynskyj then turns to the list of favorite songs. Bilynskyj, who holds a Ph. When Bilynskyj told me this, it took my breath away. Faith in God makes great optimists. Over in Burma, Judson was lying in a foul jail with 32 lbs. A fellow prisoner said, "Dr. Judson, what about the prospect of the conversion of the heathen? His instant reply was, "The prospects are just as bright as the promises of God. Faith for my deliverance is not faith in God. Faith means, whether I am visibly delivered or not, I will stick to my belief that God is love. There are some things only learned in a fiery furnace. Leave slide rules here. A man lives by believing something, not by debating and arguing about many things. David, a 2-year old with leukemia, was taken by his mother, Deborah, to Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, to see Dr. John Truman who specializes in treating children with cancer and various blood diseases. David never cried in the waiting room, and although his friends in the clinic had to hurt him and stick needles in him, he hustled in ahead of his mother with a smile, sure of the welcome he always got. When he was three, David had to have a spinal tap--a painful procedure at any age. It was explained to him that, because he was sick, Dr. Truman had to do something to make him better. The procedure was horrendous. It took three nurses to hold David still, while he yelled and sobbed and struggled. When it was almost over, the tiny boy, soaked in sweat and tears, looked up at the doctor and gasped, "Thank you, Dr. Tooman, for my hurting. One night a house caught fire and a young boy was forced to flee to the roof. The father stood on the ground below with outstretched arms, calling to his son, "Jump! All the boy could see, however, was flame, smoke, and blackness. As can be imagined, he was afraid to leave the roof. His father kept yelling: I will catch you. During the terrible days of the Blitz, a father, holding his small son by the hand, ran from a building that had been struck by a bomb. In the front yard was a shell hole. Seeking shelter as quickly as possible, the father jumped into the hole and held up his arms for his son to follow. The Christian faith enables us to face life or meet death, not because we can see, but with the certainty that we are seen; not that we know all the answers, but that we are known. I put a new sucker washer into it and it ought to last five years. But the washer dries out and the pump has got to be primed. Under the white rock I buried a bottle of water, out of the sun and cork end up. Pour about one-fourth and let her soak to wet the leather. Then pour in the rest medium fast and pump like crazy. The well has never run dry. When you git watered up, fill the bottle and put it back like you found it for the next feller. Faith honors God and God honors faith! A story from the life of missionaries Robert and Mary Moffat illustrates this truth. For 10 years this couple labored faithfully in Bechuanaland now called Botswana without one ray of encouragement to brighten their way. They could not report a single convert. Finally the directors of their mission board began to question the wisdom of continuing the work. The thought of leaving their post, however, brought great grief to this devoted couple, for they felt sure that God was in their labors, and that they would see people turn to Christ in due season. They stayed; and for a year or two longer, darkness reigned. Then one day a friend in England sent word to the Moffats that she wanted to mail them a gift and asked what they would like. Trusting that in time the Lord would bless their work, Mrs. Moffat replied, "Send us a communion set; I am sure it will soon be needed. The Holy Spirit moved upon the hearts of

the villagers, and soon a little group of six converts was united to form the first Christian church in that land. The African impala can jump to a height of over 10 feet and cover a distance of greater than 30 feet. Yet these magnificent creatures can be kept in an enclosure in any zoo with a 3-foot wall. The animals will not jump if they cannot see where their feet will fall. Faith is the ability to trust what we cannot see, and with faith we are freed from the flimsy enclosures of life that only fear allows to entrap us. The true, living faith, which the Holy Spirit instills into the heart, simply cannot be idle. God does not expect us to submit our faith to him without reason, but the very limits of our reason make faith a necessity. The more we know of God, the more unreservedly we will trust him; the greater our progress in theology, the simpler and more childlike will be our faith. Faith is not a distant view but a warm embrace of Christ. Faith does not operate in the realm of the possible. There is no glory for God in that which is humanly possible. Faith is to believe what we do not see, and the reward of faith is to see what we believe. Live in faith and hope, though it be in darkness, for in this darkness God protects the soul. Cast your care upon God for you are His and He will not forget you. Do not think that He is leaving you alone, for that would be to wrong Him. John of the Cross. Little faith will bring your soul to heaven, but great faith will bring heaven to your soul. In April the evening news reported on a photographer who was a skydiver. He had jumped from a plane along with numerous other skydivers and filmed the group as they fell and opened their parachutes. On the film shown on the telecast, as the final skydiver opened his chute, the picture went berserk. The announcer reported that the cameraman had fallen to his death, having jumped out of the plane without his parachute. Until that point, the jump probably seemed exciting and fun. But tragically, he had acted with thoughtless haste and deadly foolishness. Nothing could save him, for his faith was in a parachute never buckled on. Faith in anything but an all-sufficient God can be just as tragic spiritually. Only with faith in Jesus Christ dare we step into the dangerous excitement of life. The steps of faith fall on the seeming void and find the rock beneath. When Hudson Taylor went to China, he made the voyage on a sailing vessel. As it neared the channel between the southern Malay Peninsula and the island of Sumatra, the missionary heard an urgent knock on his stateroom door. He opened it, and there stood the captain of the ship. Taylor," he said, "we have no wind. We are drifting toward an island where the people are heathen, and I fear they are cannibals. I want you to pray for wind. Forty- five minutes later he returned and found the missionary still on his knees. A precocious young man was taken to visit Albert Einstein. After a short visit, they walked out onto the porch and the young man pointed to a tree. Einstein, do we know that tree is there? Leadership, IV, 3, p. Sir Wilfred Grenfell, medical missionary in Labrador, found himself adrift on an ice flow, headed out to sea.