

## Lord I Believe Series

### What is Faith?

- ❖ Faith – pistis: 1) conviction of the truth of anything, belief; in the NT of a conviction or belief respecting man's relationship to God and divine things, generally with the included idea of trust and holy fervour born of faith and joined with it; 2) fidelity, faithfulness, 2a) the character of one who can be relied on – Thayer's Greek Definitions
- ❖ Faith: 1. complete trust or confidence in someone or something. 2. strong belief in God or in the doctrines of a religion, based on spiritual apprehension rather than proof. – Oxford Languages Dictionary

### Believing vs. Believing

- ❖ Believing there is a God is not enough – James 2:19
- ❖ Believing in Jesus is not enough just as knowing a person doesn't mean that you know them – Acts 19:13
- ❖ Believing on the finished work of Jesus Christ – Eph. 2:8-9; John 3:16; Col. 2:12; 2 Cor. 5:21; Rom. 6:24

### Unbelief can be Tangible

- ❖ Mark 9:24 – CEV
- ❖ It limited what Jesus would do – Mat. 13:3-58
- ❖ Don't believe God can be satisfied by God's way
  - Adam and Eve
  - Cleaving to one wife
  - God's role for me is not enough
- ❖ Refusing to see yourself and your assignment as God does – Number 13:30-33
- ❖ Doubting God's motives – Number 14:3-4
- ❖ Entertaining conversations that lead us from faith –
- ❖ Allow fear to take residence in us – Number 14:9
- ❖ Adding to or feeling the need to help God – Gal. 1:6-7
- ❖ Actions contrary to faith – 1 Tim. 5:8

### Unbelief leads to perversion – Matthew 17:17

- ❖ Perverse: diastrephō: 1) to distort, turn aside; 1a) to oppose, plot against the saving purposes and plans of God; 2) to turn aside from the right path, to pervert, corrupt
- ❖ What we see happening in the world today is the result of unbelief – Psalm 14:1

### What is Growing Unbelief in Me?

- ❖ Frustration with others – Mark 9:18
  - Unmet expectations
- ❖ Frustration with what you are experiencing – Mark 9:18
- ❖ Nothing seems to be changing – Mark 9:21
- ❖ Not acknowledging that it's there – Mark 9:24 – CEV



## Faith in Failure

- ❖ God does not fail – Heb. 1:10-12; 1 Cor. 1:9
- ❖ God knows we will make mistakes – Psa. 37:23; Rom. 8:31-33
- ❖ Failure comes with reasons – Isa. 59:1-2
- ❖ One of the largest reasons we fail is by trying to be self-dependent of God – John 15:5
  - Create the problem with disobedience
  - Try to solve the problem in our strength – Isa. 40:29
  - Depending upon your own reasoning – Pro. 3:5-6; Psa. 127:1; Rom. 12:3
    - Leads to idol worship where you make yourself the idol – Pro. 27:2; Isa. 64:6; Exo 20:3; Col. 3:5-8 (KJV, MSG)
  - We look to ourselves instead of God – Heb. 12:1-2; Phil 4:11-13
- ❖ Deeper failure is when we accuse ourselves with statements like:
  - If I only had enough faith, it wouldn't have happened
  - If I only prayed more, it wouldn't have happened
  - If I had only been there, it wouldn't have happened
    - Absence is not always a reason for seeming failure – John 11:1-21 (vs. 6, 21)
    - Is this the result of my sins? John 9:2
- ❖ While we don't condone sin, we must acknowledge we are in the flesh – Psa. 73:26; Romans 7
  - Read Romans 6:23 (both parts a & b)
- ❖ All failure is not your responsibility – Luke 9:1-5; John 15:18
- ❖ What do I do after I've failed?
  - Acknowledge it before God – Pro. 28:13; Psa. 32:5-11
  - You may have to acknowledge it before others – Mat. 5:23-24; James 5:13-16;
  - Repent – Psa. 51:10
  - Seek the Word for the why
    - Where do you turn wrong – 2 Pet. 3:17, Heb. 3:12; 2 Chr. 12:14
  - Acknowledge Christ's forgiveness – 1 John 1:8-9
    - Failing to acknowledge what Christ has done is failing to believe He has done what He said He would do
  - Forgive yourself
  - Move forward depending upon the Lord – 2 Cor. 5:17; Jude 1:24
- ❖ The key to faith in failure is getting up –
  - It's up to us – Jer. 8:4-8
  - Stop trying to keep others down when they mess up – Pro. 24:15-16
- ❖ Learn from your failures
  - Don't continue the cycle – Pro. 26:11;
  - Appreciate the lesson – Psa. 119:71
  - Failures provoke transformation – Psa. 40:2-3; Acts 19:13-20

## Faith in Frustration

- ❖ What is frustration?
  - 1: the act of frustrating; 2a: the state or an instance of being frustrated; b: a deep chronic sense or state of insecurity and dissatisfaction arising from unresolved problems or unfulfilled needs  
Merriam Webster Dictionary
  - The act of preventing the accomplishment or fulfillment of something. American Heritage Dictionary
  
- ❖ Signs of frustration (<https://www.webmd.com/mental-health/signs-frustration>)
  - Losing your temper
  - Incessant bodily movement
  - Feeling sad or anxious
  - Lacking self-confidence
  - Trouble sleeping
  - Bodily abuse, starving oneself, or irregular eating habits
  
- ❖ Job dealt with frustration – Job 6:11, 7:3, 17:11
- ❖ Jacob's frustration – Gen. 42:29-36
  - Wasn't what he expected for Joseph – Gen. 37:3
  
- ❖ Some of us are frustrated because we are expecting fulfillment from those who can not and were never design to fulfill you – 2 Tim. 1:12-14; Isa. 58:11 (KJV /MSG); Psa. 37:4; Heb. 12:2; Rom. 15:13; Phil. 4:13,19
  
- ❖ You can be frustrated with stuff: Ecc. 1:8, 5:10, 6:7; Isa. 55:2
  
- ❖ Spiritual frustration comes from many sources
  - Drinking from the wrong water – John 4:13
  - Knowing there is more but lacking the spiritual discernment or capacity to realize more – 1 Cor. 2:6-16
  - Not being fed by refusing to be led – Psa. 23; Mat. 15:29-39
  - Not being willing to be separate – 2 Tim. 2:20-22
  - Sin in the camp – Joshua 7

