

Uncommon Faith

*Now faith is being sure of what we hope for
and certain of what we do not see.*

Hebrews 11:1

Faith is confidence in God. So many things have probably disappointed you, fallen apart or fallen short of your expectations. Life has its way of dealing out many blows to the expectant heart. Why trust again, why hope, why even try to change or make things better? Not only have you seen the shortcomings in others but you have seen your own. You know that you have blown it and have even disappointed others.

Faith is not confidence in you. Wow, that book won't sell! Well, sorry about that, but faith is confidence in God. He has never failed. Can you imagine that? He always cares for you even when you fail. What? He is faithful and will never leave you alone. At your worst point in life He will throw His arms around you and love you. Faith believes that. A person of faith will always go to God because he or she knows He will always, and in any condition, accept them.

Have you ever noticed how faith comes so easily to children? Adults have a lot more difficulty believing in a Father who does only wonderful and awesome things. David and Sara were bragging on their dad one day. They actually believed that I could beat up any burglar, monster, dinosaur or extra-terrestrial that would infringe upon our family. I had to laugh and say, "I think you guys are talking about God, not your dad". Faith is being sure of the One we put our hope in. We chortle at our children's naïveté but the Lord once used children as an example to His disciples. He said, "I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven." (Matthew 18:3) Faith is being certain or having firm conviction about the One we cannot see and about His awesome kingdom.

The key words that the author of Hebrews gives us in the scripture above are: being sure, hope, and being certain. These are action words. These are absolute words and these are the life-giving words of faith. In your walk with Jesus today, activate your faith by challenging yourself to throw off the disappointments of this world and be sure, or as other versions of the bible say, be confident or assured of your God in all situations. Don't go about depressed or looking for help in all the wrong places. Put your hope in God. Be certain of His presence and His help. Challenge your skepticism. Take a step out of your confined place of safety and take a risk on God.

Hebrews 1:6 says that without faith it is impossible to please God. Those are pretty strong words. Impossible? I guess so. The Word doesn't lie. So, become like a child today and put a smile on the heart of your Father, trust in Him, believe in Him, move out in faith even though your bad experiences warn you. He can move the mountains!