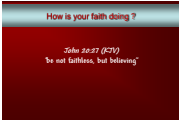


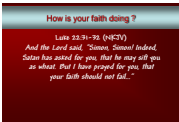
#1



Faith, Part 2 - How is your faith doing?
John 20:27 (KJV) "be not faithless, but believing"

After His death, Jesus knew that the one thing Satan would try to destroy was the faith of His Disciples.

#2



Luke 22:31-32 (NKJV) And the Lord said, "Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat. But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail..."

Jesus knew that Satan's attack on Simon was after his faith.

Satan wants to rob you of your relationship with God.

How can you tell the spiritual health of the Church?

What is the meter that defines progress and maturity?

What is it that says they are getting closer to God?

Have they stopped swearing, drinking, carousing?

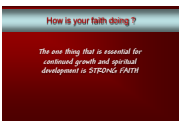
Have they stopped sleeping around?

Is what they have stopped the measure of spiritual health?

#3



#4



The one thing that is essential for continued growth and spiritual development is strong faith.

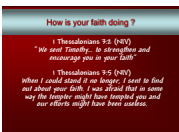
Paul's primary concern for the Church concerned their faith.

This concern is demonstrated in every one of his Epistles.

The gage of their spiritual health was their faith.

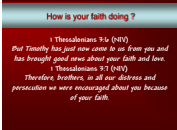
157 Times Paul encourages the faith of believers.

#5



1 Thessalonians 3:2 (NIV) We sent Timothy... to strengthen and encourage you in your faith,

#6

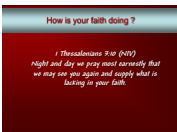


1 Thessalonians 3:5 (NIV) When I could stand it no longer, I sent to find out about your faith. I was afraid that in some way the tempter might have tempted you and our efforts might have been useless.

1 Thessalonians 3:6 (NIV) But Timothy has just now come to us from you and has brought good news about your faith and love.

1 Thessalonians 3:7 (NIV) Therefore, brothers, in all our distress and persecution we were encouraged about you because of your faith.

#7

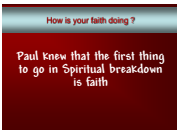


1 Thessalonians 3:10 (NIV) Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and supply what is ***lacking in your faith.***

He sent Timothy to strengthen and encourage their faith.

What was he more concerned about their faith than anything else?

#8



Paul knew that the first thing to go, in Spiritual breakdown, is faith.

It happens before behavioral changes or backsliding into sinful living.

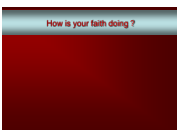
It precedes growing cold.

The first sign of Spiritual breakdown is broken faith.

When tempers keep flaring out of control, the real problem down underneath is a weakness of faith.

Every departure from right living springs from weak faith.

#9



What is the one thing that amazes or astounds Jesus?

➤ ***Click***

Throughout the four Gospels, Jesus was never astounded by anyone's **righteousness.**

#10



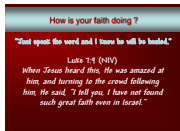
Never was He impressed with anybody's **wisdom** or **education**.

He never commended people for their **financial genius**.

***What is the one thing that amazes or astounds Jesus?
The one thing that amazed Him was faith.***

In Luke 7, the Roman centurion asked Jesus to heal his servant.

#11



When Jesus offered to go to his house, the centurion said: "Just speak the word and I know he will be healed."

Luke 7:9 (NIV) When Jesus heard this, He was amazed at him, and turning to the crowd following him, He said, "I tell you, I have not found such great faith even in Israel."

#12



In Matthew 15, Jesus is stopped by a Canaanite woman who is crying out for mercy for her daughter.

His first response was to send Her away.

He said: "I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel."

The woman would not give up.

She needed help that would only come from Jesus Christ the Son of God.

She knelt down before Him and cried: "Lord, help me!"

Jesus said: "It is not right to take the children's bread and toss it to the dogs."

But, this Canaanite woman was not going to give up.

She said: "Yes Lord, but even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from the masters' table."

#13

How is your faith doing ?

Matthew 15:28 (NIV)
Then Jesus answered, "Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted." And her daughter was healed from that very hour.

Matthew 15:28 (NIV) Then Jesus answered, **“Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted.”** And her daughter was healed from that very hour.

The one thing that moved the heart of the Lord was faith.

Jesus was also amazed went back to His hometown of Nazareth.

#14

How is your faith doing ?

Mark 6:5-6 (NIV)
He could not do any miracles there, except lay His hands on a few sick people and heal them. And He was amazed at their lack of faith. Then Jesus went around teaching from village to village.

Mark 6:5-6 (NIV) He could not do any miracles there, except lay His hands on a few sick people and heal them. And He was amazed at their lack of faith. Then Jesus went around teaching from village to village.

There was no sickness too extreme for Him to heal.

There was no demon too powerful for the Son of God.

His hands were tied by their lack of faith.

#15

How is your faith doing ?

Matthew 17:20 (NIV)
when He touched their eyes and said, "According to your faith will it be done to you."

Jesus gave a principle in Matthew 9:29 (NIV) when He touched their eyes and said, **“According to your faith will it be done to you”**

Faith alone is the trigger that releases Divine power.

Jesus is looking for a vital, faith that will not relent.

This kind of faith will keep us and draw us closer to Him.

#16

How is your faith doing ?

1 Peter 1:5 (NIV)
"who through faith are shielded by God's power"

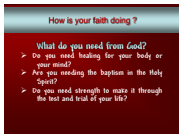
1 Peter 1:5 (NIV) “who through faith are shielded by God’s power”

Faith is the key to our relationship with Him.

Through faith, God’s power is released to shield us from every attack of Satan.

Through faith all of Satan’s attempts to steal, kill, and destroy are defeated.

#17



What do you need from God?
Do you need healing for your body or your mind?
Do you need the baptism in the Holy Spirit?
Do you need strength to make it through the test and trial of your life?

#18



Philippians 4:13 (NKJV) I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

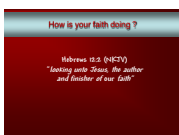
This is the key for the Church and for your life.

You are ***not*** going to find the answer by looking deep inside.

Introspection or soul searching cannot bring up the answer.

You cannot be good enough for God to bless you.

#19



God is looking for people with a deep trust and faith in Him.

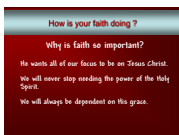
Hebrews 12:2 (NKJV) “looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith”

The answer for your spiritual need is in Jesus Christ.

The answer for your emotional trauma is Jesus Christ.

The answer for the break down in your Christian life is Jesus Christ.

#20



Why is faith so important?

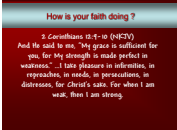
God does not want us to become super impressed with who we are, or what we can do.

He wants all of our focus to be on Jesus Christ.

We will never stop needing the power of the Holy Spirit.

We will always be dependent on His grace in our lives.

#21



Only the Holy Spirit can produce in us and through us what God wants us to be.

God wants us to learn to trust Him more.

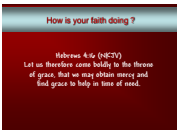
2 Corinthians 12:9-10 (NKJV) And He said to me, “**My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.**” Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ’s sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

If you are feeling weak and overwhelmed, you are in a place where God’s power will uphold you.

In faith, call out to Him for help.

In total dependence, ask in faith.

#22



Hebrews 4:16 (NKJV) Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Your Problem or Need is far too big for you to handle. The very fact of our inadequacy should be the motivation to wholehearted trust in God’s faithfulness.

I need help from God.

I need His help today.

I cannot make it through the tests of life without Him.

#23



Psalm 32:6-11 (NIV) Therefore let everyone who is godly pray to you while you may be found; surely when the mighty waters rise, they will not reach him. You are my hiding place; you will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance. *Selah*

#24

How is your faith doing ?

Psalm 24:1-12 (4:17)
 I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you. Do not be like the horse or the mule, which have no understanding but must be controlled by bit and bridle or they will not come to you.

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you. Do not be like the horse or the mule, which have no understanding but must be controlled by bit and bridle or they will not come to you.

#25

How is your faith doing ?

Psalm 25:1-12 (4:17)
 Many are the woes of the wicked, but the Lord's unfailing love surrounds the man who trusts in him. Rejoice in the Lord and be glad, you righteous; sing, all you who are upright in heart!

Many are the woes of the wicked, but the Lord's unfailing love surrounds the man who trusts in him. Rejoice in the Lord and be glad, you righteous; sing, all you who are upright in heart!

#26

How is your faith doing ?

How is your faith doing?

*Are you facing difficulties beyond your control?
 Are you being challenged?*

*You need help from the Lord.
 Jesus never fails.*