

March Development Guide

SUBJECT: LIVING BY FAITH



When we talk about faith, we often think in terms of receiving by faith. We have a need, and we exercise faith to believe we receive. This is good and true, but the Bible says we are to “live by faith” (Romans 1:17; Galatians 3:11; Hebrews 10:38) and to “walk by faith” (2 Corinthians 5:7).

When we talk about living by faith, we are talking about the totality of how we live. Are we living a lifestyle that reflects a spirit of faith? Or are we only exercising faith when we feel we need something from God? **Living by Faith is how we live our everyday lives.**

This relates to our core value, “Take Faith Risks.” *Our faith in God acts boldly and fearlessly in the midst of life’s impossibilities. It does whatever it takes to reach and rescue people because faith works through love.*

What does living by faith look like?

1. Faith hears.

Romans 10:17 (ESV) – *So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.*

- If we are to live by faith, we must continually hear God’s Word.
 - God’s Word is faith food.
- Pay close attention to what you listen to.
 - Whatever has your ear, has your heart (Proverbs 4:20-23).
- Actions:
 - Invest God’s Word in your heart by intentionally:
 - Reading the Bible
 - Attending church weekly
 - Listening to biblical teaching & preaching
 - Praying
 - Being part of a small group
 - Limit influences that speak contrary to God’s Word.

2. Faith sees.

2 Corinthians 4:18 (NIV) – *So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.*

- Faith is seeing the unseen.
 - God’s Word produces vision in us.
- Keep God’s picture in front of you.

Genesis 15:5 (ESV) – *And he [God] brought him [Abram] outside and said, “Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.”*

- God gave Abram a picture (a vision) to help him see by faith (Genesis 15:5).
- Actions:
 - Keep God’s Word in front of you.
 - Write out key verses and place them where you will see them.

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- Keep images around you that reinforce what God's Word says.
 - Create a vision board or place pictures around you that reinforce hope in God's promises.
- Use your imagination.
 - Picture yourself experiencing what God's Word says.

3. Faith speaks.

2 Corinthians 4:13 (ESV) – *Since we have the same spirit of faith according to what has been written, "I believed, and so I spoke," we also believe, and so we also speak.*

- **Faith speaks what God speaks.**
 - Am I saying what I feel or see around me?
 - Or am I saying what I have seen and heard from God's Word?
- **Actions:**
 - Write out and speak a confession based on God's Word over you / your family.
 - Insert your name into Bible verses about who you are in Christ and speak them over yourself.
 - Buy a book of Scriptural confessions.
 - The Word Works (in Cranberry Twp. bookstore)
 - Scripture Confessions (Keith & Megan Provance)

4. Faith stands.

Hebrews 10:23 (NLT) – *Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep his promise.*

- **Continue to HEAR, SEE, and SPEAK God's Word.**
 - Living by faith does not happen in a day. It happens daily.
 - Expect opposition to your faith (1 Timothy 6:12).
- **Faith is a fight, but it's one you always win if you do not quit.**
 - "... for God can be trusted to keep His promise."
- **Actions:**
 - Surround yourself with people who will stand in faith with you.
 - Join a Dream Team and/or small group.

Living by Faith is not just about receiving from God. It is about how we live our everyday lives, and it pleases God!

Hear what God says.

See what God says.

Speak what God says.

Stand on what God says.

Going Deeper

- [Scripture Confessions book](#)
- [Faith School – Keith Moore](#)
- [What Faith Is – Kenneth Hagin](#)