

Lasting Faith

David Robertson - 9/11/16

WHAT IS FAITH?

Faith is the confident assurance that what we hope for IS going to happen. It is the evidence of things we cannot yet see. – Hebrews 11:1 NLT

FAITH QUOTES

“Faith is the confident assurance that God is in control of the future and that He plans what is best for my life because He loves me.” - Rick Warren

“Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase.” -
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

“To one who has faith, no explanation is necessary. To one without faith, no explanation is possible.” - Thomas Aquinas

“Anyone living the Christian life who thinks it’s boring is not living a life of faith.” – David Robertson

KEYSTONE VERSE

1 John 5:4 For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.

1. There is a faith that TRANSFORMS us.

- Get saved
- Stay saved
- Save others

A. Get saved

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of him. – 1 John 1:1

B. Stay saved

I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God that you may know that you have eternal life. – 1 John 5:13

Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, - Jude 24

C. Save others

Whoever believes in the Son of God has the **testimony in himself**. Whoever does not believe God has made him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has borne concerning his Son. 1 John 5:10

And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. 1 John 5:11

Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. 1 John 5:12

2. There is a faith that brings VICTORY OVER DARKNESS.

- Victory over sin
- Victory over **the** devil
- Victory over doubt

A. Victory over sin

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. – 1 John 1:5-6

We know that everyone who has been born of God does not keep on sinning, but he who was born of God protects him, and the evil one does not touch him. – 1 John 5:18

B. Victory over the devil

I write to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God abides [that's an important word, we'll come back to that] in you, and you have overcome the evil one. 1 John 2:14

C. Victory over doubt

And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. 1 John 5:14

And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him. 1 John 5:15

3. There is a lasting faith the OVERCOMES THE WORLD

1 John 5:4 - For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.

1 John 5:5 – Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

- Lasting faith is a loving faith
- Lasting faith is an obedient faith
- And lasting Faith is abiding Faith

A. Lasting faith is a loving faith

1 John 5:1 - Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of him.

1 Corinthians 13:1-2 - If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ² And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. (ESV)

B. Lasting faith is an obedient faith

1 John 5:2-3 - By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments.³ For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome.

“The key to lasting faith... remaining and overcoming... is abiding.” – Ron Kairdolf

BULDING GOLD MEDAL FAITH

1. Feed your faith.
2. Exercise your faith
3. Train with faith partners
4. Refuse to lose