

The Armor of God

Real Faith – Day 21

1. How would you describe the difference between belief and faith?
2. Generally speaking, what do you think are the biggest hinderances to believers acting in faith?
3. Choose one of the following examples that show someone exhibiting faith and receiving divine protection as a result. Answer the following questions for the example that you choose to study.
 - The children of Israel (Ex. 11:4-7, 12:5-7, 13)
 - Daniel (Dan. 6:7-10, 16-23)
 - Rahab (Josh. 2:8-21, 6:24-25)
4. How did the people in these passages demonstrate confidence in God?
5. How were they protected as a result of their obedience?
6. Is there any circumstance from your own experience when you felt spiritually protected by God as a result of having acted in faith?
7. How does James's illustration using the human body and spirit (in the margin) help explain the concept of faith and works more clearly?
8. Turn to Hebrews 11:1 and copy the biblical definition of faith word-for word.

9. The word evidence or conviction in Hebrew 11:1 is translated from the Greek word elanchos, meaning proof. Faith is “proof of what which is not seen”. Consider what it means to have “proof” of something. How does this understanding help us see faith as a tangible thing rather than an invisible virtue?

10. If the definition of faith in Hebrews 11:1 is different from the personal definition you wrote at the beginning of today’s study, adapt your new definition here.

11. End today by making a list of any areas where you sense God asking you to take a step of faith right now – either because it’s a clear directive from His Word (to forgive, to tithe, etc.) or because you feel the leading of God’s Spirit. We’ll refer back to this list again throughout this week.

12. If you’ve hesitated to move forward in obedience – why? Try to narrow down and document your reasons here.

13. If this matter is something directly addressed in God’s Word, write some of the Bible references below.

14. If the direction you’ve listed is not directly addressed in the Bible, have you...
 - Prayed fervently about it?

 - Made certain it aligns with the overarching themes and direction revealed in Scripture and will in no way manipulate or go against it?

 - Asked for wise counsel from someone in spiritual authority in your life?

15. Now, apply the four elements of my dad’s definition of faith to this area of your life. Record your thought for each one.
 - Faith is:

 - Acting like it is so (In what practical way can you respond in faith?):

 - Even when it is not so (What are the unseen elements that make it difficult to do so?):

- So that it might be so (What are God's promises to you?):
- Simply because God said so. (What has He told you to do?):

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