

Faith is a Foundational Feeling

Faith is both a feeling, and a substance. Feelings are real, but they don't necessarily have substance. Faith is both.

Different translations of Hebrews 11:1 tells us that faith is a substance, and confidence. Faith is the foundation of Christianity.

The Greek word here is hypóstasis. This word is used to describe someone standing under a guaranteed agreement. Figuratively, it describes a title to a promise or property. Faith is a legitimate claim because it's literally under a legal-standing—entitling someone to what is guaranteed under the agreement.

In this faith lesson, you'll answer one question about your faith goals, read various Bible verses about faith, and then write out how you'd describe faith to someone who is brand new to it.

How would you like your faith to grow and develop?

Next, read through these Scriptures. Your goal is to use these verses to build a foundational understanding of faith so you could describe faith to someone else.

“Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.”

Hebrews 11:1 NIV

He replied, “Because you have so little faith. Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.”

Matthew 17:20 NIV

“Take care, brothers and sisters, that there not be in any one of you a wicked, unbelieving heart [which refuses to trust and rely on the Lord, a heart] that turns away from the living God. But continually encourage one another every day, as long as it is called “Today” [and there is an opportunity], so that none of you will be hardened [into settled rebellion] by the deceitfulness of sin [its cleverness, delusive glamour, and sophistication].”

Hebrews 3:12-13 AMP

“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,”

2 Corinthians 4:13 ESV

“These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.”

1 Peter 1:7 NIV

“Let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.”

Hebrews 10:22 NIV

“You will also decide and decree a thing, and it will be established for you; And the light [of God’s favor] will shine upon your ways.”

Job 22:28 AMP

“By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.”

Hebrews 11:3 NKJV

“But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.”

Hebrews 11:6 NKJV

“I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.”

Galatians 2:20 NKJV

“For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways,” says the Lord. “For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts.”

Isaiah 55:8-9 NKJV

““Have faith in God,” Jesus answered. “Truly I tell you, if anyone says to this mountain, ‘Go, throw yourself into the sea,’ and does not doubt in their heart but believes that what they say will happen, it will be done for them. Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.”

Mark 11:22-24 NIV

“That is what the Scriptures mean when God told him, “I have made you the father of many nations.” This happened because Abraham believed in the God who brings the dead back to life and who creates new things out of nothing. Even when there was no reason for hope, Abraham kept hoping—believing that he would become the father of many nations. For God had said to him, “That’s how many descendants you will have!””

Romans 4:17-18 NLT

“By faith these people overthrew kingdoms, ruled with justice, and received what God had promised them. They shut the mouths of lions, quenched the flames of fire, and escaped death by the edge of the sword. Their weakness was turned to strength. They became strong in battle and put whole armies to flight.”

Hebrews 11:33-34 NLT

“So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.”

Romans 10:17 ESV

“I have not departed from the commandment of His lips; I have treasured the words of His mouth More than my necessary food.”

Job 23:12 NKJV

“But his delight is in the law of the Lord, And in His law he meditates day and night. He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper.”

Psalms 1:2-3 NKJV

After reading through these verses, spend some time answering these 4 questions about faith if you were describing it to someone who has never heard about it.

1. What is faith?

2. How does faith work?

3. How can you use faith?

4. How can you grow your faith?
