

## Hebrews 11:1 NLT

“Faith is the confidence that what we hope for will actually happen; it gives us assurance about things we cannot see.”

## Romans 10:9-11 NLT

“If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord *and* believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by openly declaring your faith that you are saved. As the Scriptures tell us, “Anyone who trusts in him will never be disgraced.”

*BDAG – New Testament Greek to English Lexicon*

*Definition of “Believe” (pisteúō):*

- a. to \_\_\_\_\_ something to be true and therefore worthy of one’s trust
- b. to \_\_\_\_\_ oneself to an entity in complete confidence

*What Saves Us:*

Confessing our faith in Jesus publicly coupled with the \_\_\_\_\_ of believing (considering the message of the Gospel and putting your confident trust in Christ to save us from destruction).

*What DOESN’T Save Us:*

Repeating a “prayer” after a preacher without faith in Jesus, a \_\_\_\_\_ belief that the message of the Gospel is so true it is worthy to be trusted for eternal salvation and earthly change.

## James 2:14-24 NLT

What good is it, dear brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but don’t show it by your actions? Can that kind of faith save anyone? Suppose you see a brother or sister who has no food or clothing, and you say, “Good-bye and have a good day; stay warm and eat well”—but then you don’t give that person any food or clothing. What good does that do? So you see, faith by itself isn’t enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless. Now someone may argue, “Some people have faith; others have good deeds.” But I say, “How can you show me your faith if you don’t have good deeds? I will show you my faith by my good deeds.” You say you have faith, for you believe that there is one God. Good for you! Even the demons believe this, and they tremble in terror. How foolish! Can’t you see that faith without good deeds is useless? Don’t you remember that our ancestor Abraham was shown to be right with God by his actions when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? You see, his faith and his actions worked together. His actions made his faith complete. And so it happened just as the Scriptures say: “Abraham believed God, and God counted him as righteous because of his faith.” He was even called the friend of God. So you see, we are shown to be right with God by what we do, not by faith alone.”

Our \_\_\_\_\_ are informed by our \_\_\_\_\_.

### **Ephesians 2:8-10 NLT**

“God saved you by his grace *when you believed*. And you can’t take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it. For we are God’s masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, *so we can do* the good things he planned for us long ago.”

FAITH is directly tied to our \_\_\_\_\_.

We \_\_\_\_\_ know our true and ultimate purpose apart from Christ.

#### *Our World Says:*

- Hit back.
- Make them feel worse than they made you feel.
- Think of yourself.
- Build your own kingdom.
- Do what you want.
- Take what you deserve.
- You define your own truth.
- Love is whatever you want to do.
- Don’t trust people.

#### *God’s Word Says:*

### **Romans 12:6-21 NLT**

In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well. So if God has given you the ability to prophesy, speak out with as much faith as God has given you. If your gift is serving others, serve them well. If you are a teacher, teach well. If your gift is to encourage others, be encouraging. If it is giving, give generously. If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility seriously. And if you have a gift for showing kindness to others, do it gladly. Don’t just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good. Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other. Never be lazy, but work hard and serve the Lord enthusiastically. Rejoice in our confident hope. Be patient in trouble, and keep on praying. When God’s people are in need, be ready to help them. Always be eager to practice hospitality. Bless those who persecute you. Don’t curse them; pray that God will bless them. Be happy with those who are happy, and weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with each other. Don’t be too proud to enjoy the company of ordinary people. And don’t think you know it all! Never pay back evil with more evil. Do things in such a way that everyone can see you are honorable. Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone. Dear friends, never take revenge. Leave that to the righteous anger of God. For the Scriptures say, “I will take revenge; I will pay them back,” says the Lord. Instead, “If your enemies are hungry, feed them. If they are thirsty, give them something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals of shame on their heads.” Don’t let evil conquer you, but conquer evil by doing good.”