

## **FAITH**

**There is no message in the Bible more essential than the importance of faith. Hebrews 11:6 tells us that without faith it is impossible to please God. This includes believing not only that God exists, but that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him.**

**Many people will say that they believe in God, but their lives show clearly that they are making no effort to “earnestly seek Him”.**

**How does a person acquire faith? According to Romans 10:17, faith comes by hearing God’s message. In other words, one needs to be a dedicated student of the Bible. It is the source of our information about God. It contains the evidence upon which faith is built. A person who does not study his Bible is not likely to have much faith.**

**The faith that God rewards is much more than passive belief. Unless one’s faith leads him to action, it is not real faith. The book of James makes this clear. According to chapter 2, verse 26, “..faith without deeds (or works) is DEAD”.**

**Much of the Bible was written to illustrate this principle. Hebrews, chapter 11, summarizes many of these examples, showing how true faith motivates the lives of those who possess it. The writer mentions such people as Abel, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, and many others, all of whom showed that their lives were controlled by their faith in God. For some this faith cost them their lives. But clearly they were convinced that God’s rewards far outweighed the price they paid.**

**The need for an active faith is just as important today as it was in ancient times. Let each of us dedicate ourselves to a life of faith.**