

“GOD’S THOUGHTS & GOD’S WAYS: PART 2; FAITH”

LIVING BY FAITH:

- God’s word will always be fulfilled (Is. 55:8-11).
- We are to live by “...every word that comes from the mouth of God” (Mt. 4:4)
 - This requires us to believe and have faith ... faith in God and His Word. Faith must be based upon His character.
 - It requires an ability to hear God.
 - Speak to us by the Holy Spirit (1Cor. 2:10-14).
 - Speak to us through the Bible (2Tim. 3:16).
- Faith is believing what is not yet will be! (Heb. 11:1)
 - Faith is not an “if” or a “maybe” or a “hopefully”. Faith is only a matter of “when” and “how”.
- Faith is believing and obeying the truth;
 - no matter what people may say,
 - no matter what circumstances look like,
 - no matter what our own thoughts and emotions tell us.
- *IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO PLEASE GOD WITHOUT FAITH (Heb. 11:6).*

FAITH BUSTERS:

- “What we see” Filter. It can deflate our faith (Mk. 6:35-37; 2Cor. 5:7).
 - Our resources will never look like enough.
- Circumstances Filter. It can cause us to doubt (2Ki. 7:1-2; Mt. 14:28-31).
- Facts Filter. It can influence us to not believe (Gen. 18:9-14).
 - Truth, God’s word, is greater than the facts.
- Timing Filter. Delays can cause us to give up.
 - Longer than expected delays before fulfillment.
- Expectations Filter. It can cause us to miss God’s answer (2Ki. 5:9-12).
 - The answer we get may not be the answer we expected.
- Failure Filter. When we hear or understand God’s will wrongly

- Living by faith is a learning experience, which means we will make mistakes.
- Fear Filter. What if ...

A LIFESTYLE OF FAITH:

- Consider God's Word the final authority for your life choices.
- Learn to hear the voice of God's Spirit speaking to your heart.
- Active participation in a community of faith, the church (Ro. 1:11-12).
- Face your fears (Mt. 8:26; 27:31; Mk. 6:35-36).
- Always trust Jesus (Col. 2:6-7; Heb. 12:1-2).
- Believing that God has a redemptive purpose in everything that happens to you (Ro. 8:31).
- Persevering in believing God's promises (Heb. 6:11-12).