

Building Your Faith: The Blueprint for your Faith pt 3

Faith is essential to our relationship with God. In fact, Hebrews 11:6 tells us that "without faith, it is impossible to please God." But how do we build and strengthen our faith? How do we move from simply believing to actively living out our faith? This blueprint for faith will help you understand how to construct a faith that stands strong through life's challenges.

What is the foundation of a strong faith?

The foundation of your faith is believing God's Word. Just like any building needs a solid foundation, your faith must be built on the truth of Scripture. You must believe that God's Word is true—period. Not just when it's convenient or when it makes sense, but all the time.

Romans 10:17 tells us that "faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." This is how you develop a foundation where you understand and believe God's Word is true. You can't cherry-pick which parts of Scripture you want to believe. All of His Word is true.

How do I trust God when His process doesn't make sense?

The framework of your faith is trusting God's process. Once the foundation is laid, the next phase is putting up the structure—and that structure is built through trust. Proverbs 3:5-6 instructs us to "trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will direct your paths." Notice it says "all your heart" and "all your ways"—not just the areas where you're comfortable letting God lead.

Many of us struggle with trusting God's process because we don't like what we have to go through. The path doesn't make sense to us. But God is less interested in what you receive and more deeply invested in who you become through the process.

Why is obedience so important to growing my faith?

The reinforcement of your faith is obeying God's instructions. Your obedience is the action that proves the faith you say you have.

James 2:17 states that "faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead." You can talk about having faith all day long, but if you don't do what God is calling you to do, your faith is dead. Faith isn't just what you believe—it's what you do because of what you believe.

Just because you believe something doesn't mean you'll do it. There are things in your life that you wholeheartedly believe, yet you still don't act on them. Faith says, "Because God said it, I'm going to do it."

How does obedience strengthen my faith?

Every time you obey God, even when it's hard, your faith muscles grow. Obedience is faith under pressure—it's when your spirit says "yes" even when your flesh wants to say "no."

1 Samuel 15:22 reminds us that "to obey is better than sacrifice." God would rather you follow His instructions than impress Him with empty religious performance. He wants you to follow the blueprint, not just act like it.

The story of Peter walking on water

Remember Peter's experience in Matthew 14? When Peter saw Jesus walking on water, he said, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." Jesus simply said, "Come."

Here's the key insight: Peter's faith didn't get him out of the boat—his obedience did. Your faith doesn't move you forward; your obedience moves you forward. Peter believed Jesus, but it wasn't until he stepped out of the boat that the miracle happened.

Even when Peter began to sink after taking his eyes off Jesus, Jesus didn't let him drown. God doesn't abandon those who obey.

What practical steps can I take to obey God by faith?

1. Do what God says, not what makes sense

Obedience isn't always logical, but it's always blessed. Isaiah 55:8-9 reminds us that God's thoughts and ways are higher than ours. You don't need to understand the whole picture to obey.

2. Act immediately

Delayed obedience is still disobedience. Psalm 119:60 says, "I hasten and do not delay to keep your commandments." When you delay obedience, you delay the promise.

Similarly, partial obedience is also disobedience. If God tells you to cut all communication with someone toxic, but you still read their messages, you're not fully obeying.

3. Trust the outcome to God

Once you've obeyed, trust God with the results. Jeremiah 29:11 assures us, "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Too often, we try to control outcomes or take shortcuts when things don't happen quickly enough. God is asking you to trust that His outcome will be better than anything you could engineer yourself.

Life Application

This week, identify one area where God is asking for your obedience. Perhaps it's a relationship that needs boundaries, a step of faith in your career, or a spiritual discipline you've been neglecting.

Take these steps:

- Find what God's Word says about this area (foundation)
- Commit to trusting God's process even if it doesn't make sense (framework)
- Take immediate action to obey (reinforcement)

Ask yourself:

- What is one area where I've been delaying obedience?
- Am I trying to control outcomes rather than trusting God with results?
- How might my life look different if I fully obeyed what I already know God wants me to do?

Remember, faith without works is dead. Your miracle is waiting on the other side of your obedience.