

Overcoming Unbelief

A Life of Faith in Unbelieving Times

Our lives are similar in that we have moments and times when we are more influenced by unbelief than what God says.

“Faith shows the reality of what we hope for; the conviction of things not seen. Through their faith, the people in the days of old earned a good reputation.”

**Hebrews 11:1-2
New Living Translation**

“When the Son of Man returns, how many will he find on the earth who have faith?”

Luke 18:8
New Living Translation

Faith in Jesus is crucial, and it is a relational reality, not transactional. It is a matter of the heart, not of the mind.

**The depth of our revelation of who
God is and who we are in Him
establishes the strength of our faith.**

What we believe and act upon when we hear His voice, moves the heart towards faith or unbelief.

(Hebrews 3:15, Matthew 7:24-27)

Three Dangers of Unbelief

- 1. Unbelief is sinful and turns us away from God.** (Hebrews 3:12)
- 2. Unbelief stops us from experiencing and participating in the “more” that Jesus has for us.** (Mark 9:19, 22-24)
- 3. Unbelievers are those who participate in the second death.** (Revelation 21:8)

Faith is...

- 1. Faith is certainty in Jesus, not simply about Jesus.**
- 2. Faith is radical trust in Jesus, not statements about Jesus.**
- 3. Faith is loyalty, allegiance, and faithfulness to Jesus.**
- 4. Faith is a way of seeing the world.**

**To believe in Jesus is to
“belove” Jesus.**

Seven Signs that Unbelief is Influencing a Person/Community

“For in Christ Jesus... the only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.”

Galatians 5:6

Seven Ways Love Nurtures Faith in a Person/Community:

1. We see ourselves differently than how the Lord sees us. (Numbers 13:33)
 - **Learn your identity as defined in the New Testament. Declare it! Live it!** (Galatians 4:1-7, John 1:12)

Seven Ways Love Nurtures Faith in a Person/Community:

2. We practice idolatry because we look to people and things to give us value and worth rather than affirming ourselves and others with the value and worth we receive from Jesus. (Exodus 32)
- **Seek God's Kingdom first! (Matthew 6:33)**

Seven Ways Love Nurtures Faith in a Person/Community:

3. We have a complaining and critical attitude and lifestyle.

- **Have a grateful attitude (and say thank you often)! (Colossians 2:6-7)**

Seven Ways Love Nurtures Faith in a Person/Community:

4. We pridefully criticize leaders instead of collaborating on ways to serve and foster improvement, growth, and health. (Numbers 16)
 - **Support one another through friendship, partnership, and discipleship. If we disagree or have questions, seek understanding. (Hebrews 3:13)**

Seven Ways Love Nurtures Faith in a Person/Community:

5. We outsource our relationship with Jesus to others. We do not step into what God calls us to. (Exodus 20:19)
 - **Build and chronicle your personal history with God.**

“Faith grows out of the experiences that we have with God. Never discuss what you lack. Just put what you have into God’s hand.”

Graham Cooke

Seven Ways Love Nurtures Faith in a Person/Community:

6. We choose to sin, knowingly ignore repentance, and resist obedience to Jesus. (Hebrews 3:17)
 - Practice repentance quickly. (Mark 1:15, Romans 16:26)

Seven Ways Love Nurtures Faith in a Person/Community:

7. We desire the things of the world more than the things of Jesus. (Numbers 11:1-6)

- Ask Jesus for a hunger for the new things He has for you and the wisdom to know how to go forward with Him. (Matthew 5:6, James 1:5, 1 Corinthians 14:4)

Overcoming Unbelief

A Life of Faith in Unbelieving Times