

Faith in Action

Hebrews 11:1-3

“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. For by it the elders obtained a good testimony. By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of the things which are visible. (NKJV)

On Friday afternoon I conducted a funeral of a lady who has lived in Sandy all her life and was described to me to be a person with a quiet ‘faith’. She was well loved by her family and has attended Sandy Baptist Church in the past. In fact her son, and nephew were baptised in SBC many years ago.

This is the first funeral I have taken in Sandy where the members of the family spoke passionately about a deceased relative’s faith, about her quiet faith, as she did not want to bother anyone. As far as the family were concerned, they knew she would be with her Lord and Saviour, and that gave them peace.

Faith is not a blind optimism or a manufactured “hope so” feeling.... that some people in the world might have. Faith really is ‘being sure of what you hope for and certain of what you do not see. True Biblical faith is a confident obedience to God’s word despite circumstances and consequences.

Can I encourage you to look through Hebrews chapter 11, where we can see many characters throughout the Bible that have attributed Faith as their foundation.

Able – Faith worshipping...Able was a righteous man because of faith...

Enoch – Faith walking...Our faith in God grows as we fellowship with Him. Enoch had the desire to please God and the diligence to seek Him...

Noah – Faith working...Noah's faith involved his mind (as he was warned by God) ...his heart (his heart was moved by fear) and his Will (as he acted on what God told him).

Moses – Faith warring...Moses parents hid him from the authorities for 3 months.... that was an act of faith...

Joshua and Rahab – Faith winning...Joshua trusted by faith the God that Moses trusted.... Joshua's first act of faith was not to defeat Jericho.... but to cross the Jordan river...by faith a Nation crossed together...

Without faith it is impossible to please God (Heb. 11:6) our faith grows when we read/listen to God's Word (Rom. 10:17) and fellowship in worship and prayer.

It has been impossible to worship together face to face in the lockdown, but if you have managed to join other services online, then that is a good thing.

Faith is possible for **ALL**.... in **ALL** situations. It is not a luxury for a few 'elite' saints as some people might think. Faith is necessary for **ALL** God's people.....

Q. Where do you stand on the question of Faith?

Q. How is your Faith?

Q. If our Faith grows through fellowship with God.... are we doing enough in SBC to encourage Faith building?

Three important questions in this time of lockdown. Who knows when we will be able to get back to church to worship together, but in the meantime; may God bless you as you read/listen to His word.

Blessings

Mike