

Study Questions

1. What is it that we really need? (Paragraph 2).
2. Harmony with God, likeness to Him, what can you do to obtain it? (1, 2).
3. Why should we believe God will wash away our sins and give us a new heart? (3).
4. What lesson did Jesus teach regarding faith? (3).
5. Why did Jesus heal people of their diseases? (3).
6. Upon what did the paralytic at Bethesda act in order to be healed? (4).
7. What must we do besides believe? (5).
8. When is the fact of God's word fulfilled? (5).
9. What should or should not determine our believing? (6).
10. What three steps are included in receiving the promises of God? (7).
11. How do we become a child of God? (9).

12. How do some feel they must be before they can claim God's blessing? (10).
13. How do we come to God to claim His blessing? (10).
14. Where do thousands fail? (11).
15. Are any too sinful for Jesus to accept and pardon? (11).
16. What thoughts does God have toward us? (12).
17. What work will Satan do? (13).
18. What wrong conception of God should we not entertain? (15).
19. What are the promises of God an expression of? (17).
20. What will God do when you draw near with confession and repentance? (17).

Thought Questions

1. Will I feel faith when I have it? How will I know?
2. How can I have more faith?
3. I haven't found anyone I can trust, why should I trust God?
4. Does faith grow if you try harder?
5. Is doing something without understanding it an act of faith?
6. Is acting on something without knowing the outcome or consequences, acting in faith?
7. How can I be sure that my sins are really forgiven?
8. How do love and faith work together?
9. How are belief, trust and faith different?
10. If I pray in faith, will it always happen like I prayed?
11. I have failed so many times, will God still forgive me?
12. What if I believe, and it doesn't happen?
13. What do I have to do to make faith work for me?
14. How can I get enough faith to actually do what I need to do?
15. How can I trust a promise that I have never tried before?
16. Why do I come up to making the decision, and then give in and back down?
17. Why do I keep going back and feeling sorry for things that have been forgiven?
18. Will God really accept me just as I am?
19. How do I learn to trust what God has promised?
20. [Add your questions].

Problem Solving

The following person is having a hard time making decisions. She has a shy nature, has a domineering husband that makes most of the decisions for her, and she is fearful of making mistakes. There is often a tendency to procrastinate, and frequently can withdraw from conflict and uncomfortable feelings by isolating herself. Often other people can influence this person to make the wrong choices. How would you outline a plan to help this person to develop or acquire the strength of will to become a decision maker in spiritual matters?

Notes: You might work with the following information: causes, options, solutions, decisions, scriptures that apply.

Additional Exercises

1. Add three more items to your "Appreciation List."

2. Additional Reading:
Selected Messages, book 1, pp. 377-382
"Relation of Faith and Works."
Selected Messages, book 1, pp. 389-398
"Justified by Faith."

3. Look up Hebrews 11:1 in several different versions of the Bible.
Notice the two words "substance" and "evidence" in the KJV.

4. Study the difference between "faith" and "feeling."

TM 147

1T 167

2SM 49, 157

MYP 122

2T 92

EW 72

Ev 138, 413, 611

6BC 1073

5T 177, 199, 3 10

5. Describe one example of how the information learned in this chapter can help YOU in YOUR daily Christian life.

6. Find at least one opportunity to explain what you have learned to one or more persons.

Ellen G. White Quotations

“Faith is trusting God—believing that He loves us and knows best what is for our good. Thus, instead of our own, it leads us to choose His way. In place of our ignorance, it accepts His wisdom; in place of our weakness, His strength; in place of our sinfulness, His righteousness. Our lives, ourselves, are already His; faith acknowledges His ownership and accepts its blessing. Truth, uprightness, purity, have been pointed out as secrets of life’s success. It is faith that puts us in possession of these principles.” (*Education*, p. 253).

“Faith that enables us to receive God’s gifts is itself a gift, of which some measure is imparted to every human being. It grows as exercised in appropriating the word of God.” (*Education*, pp. 253, 254).

“It is important that we understand clearly the nature of faith. There are many who believe that Christ is the Saviour of the world, that the gospel is true and reveals the plan of salvation, yet they do not possess saving faith. They are intellectually convinced of the truth, but this is not enough, in order to be justified, the sinner must have that faith that appropriates the merits of Christ to his own soul.” (*Selected Messages*, book. 3, p. 191).

“Faith is the only condition upon which justification can be obtained, and faith includes not only belief but trust.” (*Selected Messages*, book. 1, p. 389).

“Every failure on the part of the children of God is due to their lack of faith.” (*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 657).

“Do you desire to become a follower of Christ, yet know not how to begin? Are you in darkness and know not how to find the light? Follow the light you have. Set your heart to obey what you do know of the Word of God. His power, His very life dwells in His word. As you receive the word in faith, it will give you power to obey. As you give heed to the light you have, greater light will come.” (*Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing*, p. 150).

“The soul that lives by faith on Christ desires no other nor greater good than to know and to do the will of God.” (*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, p. 644).

“The gold mentioned by Christ, the True Witness, which all must have, has been shown me to be faith and love combined, and love takes the precedence of faith.” (*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 2, p. 36).

“Through faith we receive the grace of God; but faith is not our Saviour. It earns nothing. It is the hand by which we lay hold upon Christ, and appropriate His merits, the remedy for sin.” (*The Desire of Ages*, p. 175).

“It is not faith that claims the favor of Heaven without complying with the conditions on which mercy is to be granted. Genuine faith has its foundation in the promises and provisions of the Scriptures.” (*The Desire of Ages*, p. 126).

“Confound not faith and feeling together. They are distinct. Faith is ours to exercise. This faith we must keep in exercise. Believe, believe. Let your faith take hold of the blessing, and it is yours. Your feelings have nothing to

do with this faith. When faith brings the blessing to your heart, and you rejoice in the blessing, it is no more faith, but feeling.” (*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 1, p. 167).

“Some persons make their religious life a failure because they are always wavering and do not have determination. They are frequently convicted and come almost up to the point of surrendering all for God; but, failing to meet the point, they fall back again. While in this state the conscience is hardening and becoming less and less susceptible to the impressions of the Spirit of God. His Spirit has warned, has convicted, and has been disregarded, until it is nearly grieved away. God will not be trifled with. He shows duty clearly, and if there is a neglect to follow the light, it becomes darkness.” (*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 2, p. 263).

“If you fight the fight of faith with all your will power, you will conquer.” (*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, p. 513).

“Faith is the gift of God, but the power to exercise it is ours. Faith is the hand by which the soul takes hold upon the divine offers of grace and mercy.” (*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 431).

“You have to talk faith, you have to live faith, you have to act faith, that you may have an increase of faith. Exercising that living faith, you will grow to strong men and women in Christ Jesus.” (*Faith and Works*, p. 78).

“Righteousness is right doing, and it is by their deeds that all will be judged. Our characters are revealed by what we do. The works show whether the faith is genuine.” (*Christ’s Object Lessons*, p. 312).

“To have faith means to find and accept the gospel treasure, with all the obligations which it imposes.” (*Christ’s Object Lessons*, p. 112).

“If you are willing to drift along with the current of evil, and do not cooperate with the heavenly agencies in restraining transgression in your family, and in the church, in order that everlasting righteousness may be brought in, you do not have faith. Faith works by love and purifies the soul.” (*Selected Messages*, book. 1, p. 374).

“But many have not a living faith. This is why they do not see more of the power of God. Their weakness is the result of their unbelief. They have more faith in their own working than in the working of God for them. They take themselves into their own keeping. They plan and devise, but pray little, and have little real trust in God. They think they have faith, but it is only the impulse of the moment. Failing to realize their own need, or God’s willingness to give, they do not persevere in keeping their requests before the Lord.” (*Christ’s Object Lessons*, pp. 145, 146).

QUIZ - 6

Circle T for True or F for False according to the reference:

1. T F Faith comes from hearing the word of God. (Romans 10.17).
2. T F Satan is ready to steal away the blessed assurances of God. (SC 6.13).
3. T F Many fail by not believing Jesus pardons them personally, individually. (SC 6.11).
4. T F Jesus is the author of, and man the finisher of faith. (Hebrews 12.2).
5. T F There are some people too sinful for Jesus to accept and pardon. (SC 6.11).

Use one or more words to answer the following:

6. How did Abraham show his faith? (Hebrews 11:8).

7. When you are justified, what do you have? (Romans 5:1).

8. What must accompany faith, to show that the faith is genuine? (James 2:18).

9. What should we remember the promises of God are? (SC 6.17).

10. What three steps are included in receiving the promises of God? (SC 6.7).

Circle the letter of the best answer according to the reference:

11. What is the Christian supposed to fight? (1 Timothy 6:12).
A. The enemies of Christ
B. The devil
C. The good fight of faith
D. The fight against sin
12. On what did the paralytic at Bethesda act? (SC 6.4).
A. The word of God
B. His feelings
C. The recognition of Jesus' healing power
D. Another miracle he witnessed
13. When is God's word fulfilled to us? (SC 6.5).
A. When we test it
B. When God is ready to make it happen
C. When we believe it
D. When God spoke it
14. Why did Jesus heal people of their diseases? (SC 6.3).
A. To bring them to repentance.
B. To stand up to the accusations of the Pharisees.
C. So He could exercise His divine power.
D. To lead them to believe He could forgive sins.
15. Complete the following quotation:

"This is the lesson Jesus taught while He was on earth, that the gift which God _____ us, we must _____ we do _____, and _____." (SC 6.3).