



Antonio Ciseri "Ecce Homo" (John 19:5)



# *Steps To Christ*

Ellen G. White

## Chapter 6 Faith and Acceptance

Memory Verse – 1 John 1:9 (NKJV).

“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

# Scriptures

New King James Version

# Scriptures

## 1. How is faith defined in the Scriptures?

Hebrews 11:1 (NKJV). “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”

## Scriptures

### 2. How does God feel when we lack faith?

Hebrews 11:6 (NKJV). “But without faith *it is impossible to please Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and *that* He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.”



## Scriptures

### 3. How do we get faith?

Romans 10:17 (NKJV). “So then faith *comes* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”



## Scriptures

4. What is the condition of faith without corresponding works?

James 2:17 (NKJV). “Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.”

## Scriptures

5. What is the contrast between faith and works?

James 2:18 (NKJV). “But someone will say, ‘You have faith, and I have works.’ Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.”

## Scriptures

6. How does Abraham show that faith and obedience go together?

Hebrews 11:8 (NKJV). “By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.”

## Scriptures

7. How does God live His life in us?

Ephesians 3:17 (NKJV). “that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; . . .”

## Scriptures

8. What does Paul urge Timothy to do regarding faith?

1 Timothy 6:12 (NKJV). “Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.”

## Scriptures

9. How does a follower of God live?

Habakkuk 2:4 (NKJV). “. . . But the just shall live by his faith.”

## Scriptures

10. What accompanies the exercise of faith?

James 1:5-7 (NKJV). “<sup>5</sup> If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. <sup>6</sup> But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. <sup>7</sup> For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord;”



## Scriptures

11. How should the Christian walk?

2 Corinthians 5:7 (NKJV). “For we walk by faith, not by sight.”

## Scriptures

12. How is the righteousness of the believer described?

Philippians 3:9 (NKJV). “and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which *is* from the law, but that which *is* through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith;”

## Scriptures

### 13. How is a person justified?

Romans 5:1, 2 (NKJV). “<sup>1</sup> Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup> through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.”

## Scriptures

14. How do we obtain victory over sin?

1 John 5:4 (NKJV). “For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.”

## Scriptures

15. What is the goal of faith?

1 Peter 1:9 (NKJV). “receiving the end of your faith—the salvation of *your* souls.”

## Scriptures

16. To whom does our faith look?

Hebrews 12:2 (NKJV). “looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”

# Study Questions



## Study Questions

1. What is it that we really need? (Paragraph 2).

“It is peace that you need—Heaven’s forgiveness and peace and love in the soul.”

## Study Questions

2. Harmony with God, likeness to Him, what can you do to obtain it? (1, 2).

“Money cannot buy it, intellect cannot procure it, wisdom cannot attain to it; you can never hope, by your own efforts, to secure it. But god offers it to you as a gift, ‘without money and without price’ (Isaiah 55:1). It is yours if you will but reach out your hand and grasps it.”

## Study Questions

3. Why should we believe God will wash away our sins and give us a new heart? (3).

“Then believe that He does this *because He has promised.*”

## Study Questions

4. What lesson did Jesus teach regarding faith? (3).

“This is the lesson which Jesus taught while He was on earth, that the gift which god promises us, we must believe we do receive, and it is ours.”

## Study Questions

5. Why did Jesus heal people of their diseases? (3).

“Jesus healed the people of their diseases when they had faith in His power; He helped them in the things which they could see, thus inspiring them with confidence in Him concerning things which they could not see—leading them to believe in His power to forgive sins.”

## Study Questions

6. Upon what did the paralytic at Bethesda act in order to be healed? (4).

“He acted on the word of Christ, and God gave the power. He was made whole.”

## Study Questions

7. What must we do besides believe? (5).

“You confess your sins and give yourself to God.  
You *will* to serve Him.”



## Study Questions

8. When is the fact of God's word fulfilled? (5).

“Just as surely as you do this, God will fulfill His word to you. If you believe the promise,—believe that you are forgiven and cleansed,—God supplies the fact;”

you are made whole, just as Christ gave the paralytic power to walk when the man believed that he was healed. It is so if you believe.”

## Study Questions

9. What should or should not determine our believing? (6).

“Do not wait to *feel* that you are made whole, but say, ‘I believe it; it *is* so, not because I feel it, but because God has promised.’”

## Study Questions

10. What three steps are included in receiving the promises of God? (7).

“So we may ask for these blessings, and believe that we receive them, and thank God that we *have* received them.”

## Study Questions

11. How do we become a child of God? (9).

“As it is by giving yourself to God, and believing Him, that you become His child, so you are to live in Him.”

## Study Questions

12. How do some feel they must be before they can claim God's blessing? (10).

“Some seem to feel that they must be on probation, and must prove to the Lord that they are reformed, before they can claim His blessing.”

## Study Questions

13. How do we come to God to claim His blessing?  
(10).

“Jesus loves to have us come to Him just as we are, sinful, helpless, dependent. We may come with all our weakness, our folly, our sinfulness, and fall at His feet in penitence.”



## Study Questions

14. Where do thousands fail? (11).

“Here is where thousands fail; they do not believe that Jesus pardons them personally, individually. They do not take God at His word.”

## Study Questions

15. Are any too sinful for Jesus to accept and pardon?  
(11).

“None are so sinful that they cannot find strength, purity, and righteousness in Jesus, who died for them.”

## Study Questions

16. What thoughts does God have toward us? (12).

“His thoughts are thoughts of mercy, love, and tenderest compassion.”

## Study Questions

17. What work will Satan do? (13).

“Satan is ready to steal away the blessed assurances of God. He desires to take every glimmer of hope and every ray of light from the soul; but you must not permit him to do this.”

## Study Questions

18. What wrong conception of God should we not entertain? (15).

“Can you believe that when the poor sinner longs to return, longs to forsake his sins, the Lord sternly withholds him from coming to His feet in repentance?”

## Study Questions

19. What are the promises of God an expression of? (17).

“As you read the promises, remember they are the expression of unutterable love and pity.”

## Study Questions

20. What will God do when you draw near with confession and repentance? (17).

“As you draw near to Him with confession and repentance, He will draw near to you with mercy and forgiveness.”

# Thought Questions



# Thought Questions

1. Will I feel faith when I have it? How will I know?

# Thought Questions

2. How can I have more faith?

## Thought Questions

3. I haven't found anyone I can trust, why should I trust God?

## Thought Questions

4. Does faith grow if you try harder?

## Thought Questions

5. Is doing something without understanding it an act of faith?

## Thought Questions

6. Is acting on something without knowing the outcome or consequences, acting in faith?

## Thought Questions

7. How can I be sure that my sins are really forgiven?

## Thought Questions

8. How do love and faith work together?



## Thought Questions

9. How are belief, trust and faith different?

## Thought Questions

10. If I pray in faith, will it always happen like I prayed?

## Thought Questions

11. I have failed so many times, will God still forgive me?

## Thought Questions

12. What if I believe, and it doesn't happen?

## Thought Questions

13. What do I have to do to make faith work for me?

## Thought Questions

14. How can I get enough faith to actually do what I need to do?

## Thought Questions

15. How can I trust a promise that I have never tried before?

## Thought Questions

16. Why do I come up to making the decision, and then give in and back down?



## Thought Questions

17. Why do I keep going back and feeling sorry for things that have been forgiven?

## Thought Questions

18. Will God really accept me just as I am?

## Thought Questions

19. How do I learn to trust what God has promised?

# Thought Questions

20. [Add your questions].

# Problem Solving

## 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 decision 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



## Additional Exercises

1. Add three more items to your “Appreciation List.”

## Additional Exercises

### 2. Additional Reading:

*Selected Messages*, book 1, pp. 373-382.

“Relation of Faith and Works.”

*Selected Messages*, book 1, pp. 389-398.

“Justified by Faith.”

## Additional Exercises

3. Look up Hebrews 11:1 in several different versions of the Bible. Notice the two words “substance” and “evidence” in the King James Version.

## Additional Exercises

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,  
310.

## Additional Exercises

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

## Additional Exercises

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

# Ellen G. White Quotes

*Education, p. 253*

“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, 254*

“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.”

*Selected Messages*, book 3, p. 191

“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 1, p. 389

“Faith is the only condition upon which justification can be obtained, and faith includes not only belief but trust.”

*Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 657*

“Every failure on the part of the children of God is due to their lack of faith.”

*Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing, p. 150*

“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.”

*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, p. 644

“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. 2, p. 36*

“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.”



*The Desire of Ages, p. 175*

“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. 126*

“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.”

*Testimonies for the Church, vol. 1, p. 167*

“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. 2, p. 263*

“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. 5, p. 513*

“If you fight the fight of faith with all your will power,  
you will conquer.”

*Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 431*

“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.”

*Faith and Works, p. 78*

“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.”



*Christ's Object Lessons, p. 312*

“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. 112*

“To have faith means to find and accept the gospel treasure, with all the obligations which it imposes.”

*Selected Messages*, book 1, p. 374

“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.”

*Christ's Object Lessons, p. 145, 146*

“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."

Quiz

## Quiz

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. (1 John 4:19).
3.  T F Many fail by not believing Jesus pardons them personally, individually. (SC 6:11).

## Quiz

4. T  F Jesus is the author of faith, 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).



## Quiz

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

“By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.”

## Quiz

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

“Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:”

## Quiz

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

“But someone will say, ‘You have faith, and I have works.’ Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.”

## Quiz

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

“As you read the promises, remember they are the expression of unutterable love and pity.”

## Quiz

10. What are the three steps in accepting God's promises? (SC 6.7).

“So we may ask for these blessings, and believe that we receive them, and thank God that we *have* received them.”

## Quiz

11. What is the Christian supposed to fight? (1 Timothy 6:12).
- A. The enemies of Christ
  - B. Satan
  - C. The good fight of faith
  - D. The fight against sin

## Quiz

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

## Quiz

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



## Quiz

14. Why did Jesus heal people of their diseases? (SC 6.3)
- A. To bring them 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

## Quiz

15. Complete the following:

“The matchless love of God for a world that did not love Him! The thought has a subduing power upon the soul and brings the MIND into captivity to the WILL OF GOD.” (SC 1.16.)

## Contact

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