Rocky Mountain Missionary Baptist Association of Churches

Saving Faith, LIVING Faith, & THE Faith

Camp Eden Golden, Colorado

www.rockymountainmba.org

JULY 17-21, 2017

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- I. ETERNAL SALVATION BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH
 - A. "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God" (Ephesians 2:8).
 - B. "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: By whom also we have access [a doorway] by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God" (Romans 5:1-2).
 - C. "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 6:23).
- II. EACH OF US STANDS IN NEED OF GOD'S AMAZING GRACE.
 - A. "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).
 - B. God's law teaches us that we are guilty before God. Every mouth is to be stopped so do not argue with God's word (Romans 3:19).
 - C. The lost person is not right with God, that person is an enemy to God. "For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life" (Romans 5:10).
 - D. Without Jesus Christ as our Savior we have no hope (Ephesians 2:12).
 - E. "He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God" (John 3:18).
 - F. "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him" (John 3:36).
 - G. Comments
 - 1. The person who has not received Jesus Christ by faith is, right at this moment, under the judgment and wrath of God.
 - By grace through faith, you can come out from God's judgment, wrath, and eternal death. You can pass from death unto life. "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life" (John 5:24).
 - 3. You cannot purchase God's gift of eternal life.
 - 4. You cannot do enough good to earn this precious gift.
 - 5. You do not deserve this priceless gift.
 - Romans 5:15 describes this "gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many." The word "grace" speaks of all that God offers freely: his love, his mercy, his forgiveness, and his sending his only begotten Son to die for us.

Schedule of Activities

Tuesday through Thursday

Start	End	Activity
07:15 AM		Reveille
07:45 AM	08:00 AM	Morning Devotional (Lodge)
08:00 AM	09:00 AM	Breakfast (Lodge)
09:00 AM	09:15 AM	Cabin Clean Up
09:15 AM		Cabin Inspections
09:30 AM		Bible Study Class Period 1
10:10 AM	10:20 AM	Break (Campers stay with teachers)
10:20 AM	11:00 AM	Bible Study Class Period 2
11:00 AM	11:30 AM	Free Time / Specials Rehearsal
11:30 AM		Assembly (Lodge)
12:00 PM	01:00 PM	Lunch (Lodge)
01:00 PM		Recreation Activities 1* (WAC or designated areas)
01:45 PM	02:15 PM	Snack Time (Lodge or WAC)
02:15 PM		Recreation Activities 2* (WAC or designated areas)
03:15 PM	04:15 PM	Crafts (WAC)
04:15 PM	05:00 PM	Recreation Activities 3* (WAC or designated areas)
05:00 PM	05:30 PM	Clean Up
05:30 PM	06:30 PM	Supper (Lodge)
06:30 PM	07:00 PM	Free Time / Prepare for Evening Service
07:00 PM	08:30 PM	Evening Service (Lodge)
08:30 PM	09:30 PM	Evening Recreation (WAC)
09:30 PM	10:00 PM	Campers Get Ready for Bed
10:00 PM	10:30 PM	Cabin Devotionals
10:30 PM	10:30 PM	Lights Out

* Afternoon recreation activities vary each day.

Friday

Start	End	Activity
07:15 AM	07:45 AM	Reveille
07:45 AM	08:00 AM	Morning Devotional (Lodge)
08:00 AM	09:00 AM	Breakfast (Lodge)
09:00 AM	09:15 AM	Campus Trash Pickup Walk Through
09:15 AM	10:00 AM	Clean Up and Final Cabin Inspections
10:00 AM	10:00 AM	Depart for Home

III. GOD SUPPLIES OUR NEED THROUGH JESUS CHRIST

- A. Ephesians 3:8 tells us of the "unsearchable riches of Christ." There is no way that we can measure the value of God's "unspeakable gift" (II Corinthians 9:15). I Peter 1:8-9 tells us of Jesus Christ, "Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory: Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls."
- B. "Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus" (Romans 3:24). So that we could be justified freely, Jesus gave himself for us. "For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich" (II Corinthians 8:9).
- C. Jesus came down from heaven (John 3:31).
- D. He was born of the Virgin Mary and was laid in a manger in a stable (Luke 2:7).
- E. He humbled himself and became a servant (Philippians 2:7).
- F. "And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross" (Philippians 2:8).
- G. His life, his suffering, and his blood were the purchase price needed for our salvation. "Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot" (I Peter 1:18-19).
- H. "For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's" (I Corinthians 6:20).
- IV. SALVATION CAN BE RECEIVED BY FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST
 - A. "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name" (John 1:12).
 Please notice that the words "received him" are explained as "to them that believe on his name."
 - B. Consider other words in the Bible that help us to understand the meaning of "receive" are "trust" and "faith." In Ephesians 1:12-13, we read, "That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ. In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise."
 - C. "Faith" is used in Ephesians 2:8, Romans 5:1, and Romans 10:6-9. We notice in Romans 10 that "faith" and "believe" are used to explain the same meaning as "trust" and "receive."
- V. EXAMPLES OF JESUS CHRIST TEACHING THE TRUE GOSPEL OF SALVATION BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH

- A. With Nicodemus the Pharisee.
 - This Jewish man was very religious and was taught the Old Testament scriptures. He needed more than religion. He needed his heart changed by the new birth. Jesus said to Nicodemus, "Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again" (John 3:7). Nicodemus failed to fully understand what Jesus was telling him.
 - 2. A study of the precious message of Jesus in John 3:14-21 shows how a person can be born again. According to Jesus in John 3:16, the new birth is achieved in "whosoever believeth in him."
 - 3. Your responsibility is to believe, to trust, to receive, and to have faith in Christ. The Holy Spirit will then do the work of the new birth in your heart. "That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit" (John 3:6). Your heart is then purified by faith (Acts 15:9). In Romans 5:5, we read, "And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us."
- B. With the man who was blind from birth.
 - Jesus performed a miracle, and this man gained his eyesight. Even with his eyesight restored, he did not see [understand] that Jesus was the Son of God. The rulers of the synagogue became very angry and threw this man out of the synagogue because he gave the credit for his healing to Jesus.
 - 2. From John 9:35-38, we learn how Jesus gave the message of salvation by grace through faith to this man. When Jesus found the man, he asked him this question, "Dost thou believe on the Son of God?" (John 9:36). The man asked another question, "Who is he, Lord, that I might believe on him?" (John 9:36). Jesus gave him a good answer to that question (John 9:37). Then the man responded with this simple but sincere statement of his faith in Jesus Christ. "Lord I believe." (John 9:38)
- C. The Publican who went to the temple to pray.
 - In the lesson in Luke 18:9-14, Jesus shows the need for humility, and the great harm in pride and in trusting in yourself. The Pharisee had the wrong attitude in his self-righteous prayer. The Publican prayed with humility, "God be merciful to me a sinner" (Luke 18:13). Jesus tells us that the Publican went home justified.
 - In John 9, the verses do not speak of the man who had been born blind, calling in prayer upon the name of the Lord, just a statement of his true faith.
 - 3. The verses in Luke 18, do not mention this Publican's faith but we can see true faith expressed in his prayer.

- E. Within each local church and in the cooperation efforts as the churches associate, fellowship, and work together, this scripture has an excellent lesson:
 - "Only let your conversation [manner of life] be as it becometh [is fitting] the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel" (Philippians 1:27).

- E. We have a warning in II Peter 2:1-3 to be on guard for false teachers.
 - "But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of. And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not."
- F. A serious problem in Bible times and a problem in our own time:
 - 1. Some shall depart from the faith (I Timothy 4:1).
 - 2. Some concerning faith have made shipwreck (I Timothy 1:19).
 - 3. Some deny the faith (I Timothy 5:8).
 - 4. Some have erred concerning the faith (I Timothy 6:21).
 - 5. Some overthrow the faith of others (II Timothy 2:18).
 - 6. Some are men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith (II Timothy 3:8).
- III. I HAVE KEPT THE FAITH
 - A. "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith" (II Timothy 4:7).
 - B. "Therefore seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not; But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God" (II Corinthians 4:1-2). Paul knew the value of preaching the truth of God's word. He was committed and willing to suffer so that God's message of salvation and Christian service could be made known.
 - C. Paul knew the value of a New Testament church as the means of getting God's message to all "Greeks, and to the Barbarians; both to the wise, and to the unwise" (Romans 1:14). "But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth" (I Timothy 3:15).
 - D. The New Testament church was designed, organized, established, structured, taught, and equipped to spread and contend for "the faith once delivered to the saints." His church is
 - 1. His body, purchased with His blood (Acts 20:28).
 - 2. His fullness, which means that His church is to fulfill His commission (Ephesians 1:23).
 - His church is to make known God's manifold wisdom (Ephesians 3:10-11).

- 4. God gives a promise in Romans 10:13, "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." This one verse by itself does not mention faith, but we notice in the context that faith and belief are shown. "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved" (Romans 10:9).
- VI. Conclusion
 - A. In teaching salvation by grace through faith, we give the glory to God for saving us. "Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? of works? Nay: but by the law of faith" (Romans 3:27).
 - B. In teaching salvation by grace through faith, we show that God does not force his will upon us. He does not make us receive Christ. He offers the free gift of eternal life, and you must be willing to receive the His Son and eternal life. "Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near" (Isaiah 55:6).

Lesson 2: Living Faith

Romans 1:17

I. Introduction

- A. God's Word declares that His people are to live by faith. "For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith" (Romans 1:17). God's righteousness is revealed when His people make the decision to live by and not by sight. There is more to living a life of faith than being saved and/or simply claiming to have faith. Many saved people forfeit a blessed life for a life lived according to the flesh.
- B. Some aspects to consider on the subject of Living Faith are:
 - 1. Living Faith Is Given From God
 - 2. Living Faith Is Designed To Grow
 - 3. Living Faith Is Meant To Be Seen
- II. Living Faith Is Given From God
 - A. If God's people are going to have victory in the battles, trials, and events of this life, it is mandatory that they have faith (trust) in the promises of His Word.
 - 1. I John 5:4, "For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that **overcometh** the world, even our faith."
 - a. "born" This faith is born, or originates, from the Lord.
 - b. "*overcometh*" This faith has already overcome the world, and can be trusted today and in the future.
 - c. **Hebrews 12:2a**, "Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith..."
 - i. "author" point of origin, originator
 - ii. "*finisher*" a completer, a perfecter, who brings one through to the goal so as to win and receive the prize.
 - d. Since the Lord is the "*author*" and "*finisher*" of the faith, He has the right to require His people to allow that faith to grow and bring Him honor and glory, as is our purpose altogether.
 - i. **Hebrews 11:6**, "But without faith it is impossible to please Him: for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him."
- III. Living Faith Is Designed To Grow
 - A. Faith as a grain of mustard seed.
 - 1. A popular interpretation of Matthew 17:18-20, concerning faith has been spoken, taught, preached and thus, lived in the lives of many saved people, whereby they lived without the victory offered by the kind of faith spoken of in God's Word. "And Jesus rebuked the devil; and he departed out of him: and the child was

continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God" (Acts 14:21-22).

- G. One of the Ten Commandments given to Israel on Mount Sinai is: "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour" (Exodus 20:16). An innocent man, Naboth, lost his life because Jezebel hired false witnesses so King Ahab could steal Naboth's vineyard (I Kings 21:1-14).
- H. The New Testament commandment is: "But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ" (Ephesians 4:15). An eternal soul may be turned away from true salvation by those who bear false witness concerning God's grace and the gift of eternal life that can be received as a free gift by faith (Ephesians 2:8, Romans 5:1-2). Your life can be wasted if you are deceived and led away from God's true doctrines. "Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls" (James 1:21).
 - 1. "Soul" is "psuche," which means "Life"
- II. GROW IN GRACE AND THE KNOWLEDGE
 - A. "But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen" (II Peter 3:18).
 - B. The Lord's true servants did teach God's true plan of salvation, but they also obeyed the command and example set by our Lord and the early churches. They also taught the plan of Christian service shown in the New Testament.
 - "For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive" (Ephesians 4:12-14).
 - C. Paul also taught the Ephesian congregation, "For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God" (Acts 20:27).
 - D. Please notice the word "deceive" in Ephesians 4:14. Satan has ministers who are "false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works" (II Corinthians 11:13-15).

Lesson 3: The Faith

Jude 3, Philippians 1:27

I. COMMANDS AND EXAMPLES

- A. "Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should <u>earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered</u> <u>unto the saints</u>" (Jude 3). In the Greek text, there is one word, "*epagonizo*," which is translated by the two words "earnestly contend." These words speak of being fervent, being intense, very serious, firm, and faithful to teach the true doctrines of the inspired Bible.
- B. Jesus Christ, our Savior, is "the way, the truth, and the life" (John 14:6). He taught the truth in his earthly ministry. The commission given to his church in Matthew 28:18-20 commands his church to keep on teaching the truth. "Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you." God's will is expressed in I Timothy 2:3-4, "For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth."
- C. Jesus Christ promised his church that, when he left this earth to return to the Father, He would send the Holy Spirit to provide the power and guidance need for their work. "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come" (John 16:13).
- D. When this promise was fulfilled on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2), the new church members received teaching from the Apostles. "Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls. And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers" (Acts 2:41-42).
- E. "The Faith" of Jude 3 is the true doctrine taught by Jesus Christ, received by His first church, and then continued in the ministry of the other churches as the kingdom work of the Lord was advanced "in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth" (Acts 1:8).
- F. Teaching the true doctrine, the word of God, the faith once delivered to the saints, was the regular practice of Paul and Barnabas. "And when they had preached the gospel to that city [Derbe], and had taught many, they returned again to Lystra, and to Iconium, and Antioch, Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to

cured from that very hour. Then came the disciples to Jesus apart, and said, Why could not we cast him out? And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, **If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you**" (Matthew 17:18-20).

- a. The claim is that, if a person has faith the size of a mustard seed, he can move mountains.
- b. When these verse are used in harmony with Matthew 13:31-32, a very different kind of faith is declared. "Another parable put He forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is like to a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and sowed in his field: Which indeed is the least of all seeds: but when it is grown, it is the greatest among herbs, and becometh a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in the branches thereof."
- c. Jesus was not telling them that faith the size of a grain of mustard seed is all that is required to move mountains.
- 2. Faith is like a muscle in the body. Without exercise, it will not mature and grow.
 - a. A person's faith begins with trusting the Lord Jesus to save them, "by faith."
 - i. At this point, one's faith is as a grain of mustard seed, but it is not God's design that that seed of faith remain small.
 - ii. Jesus said, "*when it* [the seed] *is grown*" is of great benefit to not only the possessor, but also to others.
 - b. Several scripture references attest to the fact that God is not pleased with "*little faith*."
 - i. **Matthew 8:26**, "And He saith unto them, Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith? Then He arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm."
 - ii. Matthew 14:31, "And immediately Jesus stretched forth His hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?"
 - iii. Matthew 16:8, "Which when Jesus perceived, He said unto them, O ye of little faith, why reason ye among yourselves, because ye have brought no bread?"
 - iv. Luke 12:28, "If then God so clothe the grass, which is to day in the field, and to morrow is cast into the oven; how much more will He clothe you, O ye of little faith?"
 - c. Someone once said, "Faith that cannot be tested, is faith that cannot be trusted."

- 3. Therefore, God is not saying or implying that small faith is all we need, but that that is where it begins and by way of constant and consistent, day by day, walk in obedience to His Word, that small faith becomes great faith.
- B. Abraham was a saved man who began with little faith.
 - 1. God called Abraham to leave his homeland, (Genesis 12:1).
 - 2. God allowed various challenges to come into Abraham's life to provide opportunities of spiritual growth, (Genesis 12-21).
 - 3. Abraham did not know what testing God had for his future, but God knew his faith would have to grow to be able to sustain and give victory when God told him to offer "*his only son Isaac*" as a sacrifice. (Genesis 22)
 - 4. God still provides opportunities for the small seed of faith, given at salvation, to grow and mature during our lifetime.
 - a. **Proverb 3:5-6**, "Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths."
 - b. All of God's people have a choice to allow God to grow their faith, or, trust in themselves, "*It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man*" (**Psalm 118:8**).
- IV. Living Faith Is Meant To Be Seen
 - A. James 2:17-18, "Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone. Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works."
 - 1. James tells his readers that faith without works (evidence) is dead and alone, and then gives an illustration.
 - a. A man says to another, "Thou hast faith...shew me thy faith without thy works."
 - b. A man says, "I have works...and I will shew thee my faith by my works."
 - c. The point is, living faith is never "*alone*" (by itself) and it is impossible to have living faith and not have works.
 - d. The man in this scenario, who claims to have "*faith*," has been challenged to give proof of his faith without works.
 - i. The challenge is impossible to meet without works.
 - e. The challenger declares that his faith is seen in his works.
 - 2. God's Word assigns wisdom to works "in meekness."
 - a. James 2:13, "Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him shew out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom."
 - b. Works done to be seen of men, has only that praise as its reward.

- B. Abraham's faith stands out as one of the most extreme works of faith in the Bible.
 - 1. God tempted (tested) Abraham's faith for the benefit of Abraham and for all of God's people throughout the ages.
 - a. **Genesis 22:1**, "And it came to pass after these things, that God did tempt Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold, here I am. And He said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of."
 - 2. Throughout Abraham's life, the opportunities the Lord had provided for his faith to grow had matured and were now at peak production.
 - a. **Hebrews 11:17-19**, "By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall thy seed be called: Accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him in a figure."
- C. Jesus made a statement in the Book of John, "*The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly*" (John 10:10).
 - 1. The "*abundant life*" and the "*victory*" offered by Jesus, is only possible if, after salvation, a person is obedient to the rest of what the Lord has commanded.
- V. Conclusion
 - A. Living Faith Is Given From God
 - B. Living Faith Is Designed To Grow
 - C. Living Faith Is Meant To Be Seen