

# Don't Mislplace Your Faith.....

**There has been one thought on my mind a lot this month....and it has been faith.**

**I was sitting here at my computer trying to figure out why God has had this subject on my heart so strongly. Whatever the reason, I am sure that this message is for me as much as it is for anyone else...**

**The dictionary's definition of faith:** belief in, devotion to, or trust in somebody or something, especially without logical proof (visual proof)

In Hebrews 11:1, the Bible has this to say about faith:

*Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.*

I encourage you to read Hebrews 11....it will inspire you. All of those mentioned were just regular people like you and me....people who's faith in God transformed them.... and history.

How many times have you misplaced your faith? If I ask myself this question....the answer would be "Too many times to count."

I have been very guilty of misplacing my faith recently....and God has been faithful to point that out to me....

Now, I don't think that I have lost my faith. But I have definitely been guilty of misplacing it....or even more accurately - displacing it. (I looked both definitions up and I think displaced is much more accurate.)

**mislplaced means** to put something in a wrong place or position

**displaced means** to move something from its usual or correct place

Usually when I displace my faith, it is followed by a statement like, "If so and so would just do

this....then everything would be OK...." or "If I could just do this....then everything would be OK...." or "If this would just happen....then everything would be OK...." See the pattern? At this point, I am already looking at what I can "see" to solve my problem.

When we can see things with our earthly eyes, then it doesn't take much faith at all does it?

When you start using statments like those.... you can be sure you have displaced your faith. In my case I was looking to someone else, myself and even circumstances to make it all OK when the ONLY one I should have been looking to was God.

When your faith is in God....then it is in the correct place. God NEVER CHANGES. There's a constant there to base your faith upon. There is a cornerstone, a solid rock, that never changes and all we have to do is keep our faith in it's correct place. People change....we change....circumstances change....why would anyone logically put their faith anywhere but God?

We are weak and whether we want to feel like we have conrol or we want to place blame... it is so easy to take our eyes off of God and his promises and put them on things we can visually see with our earthly eyes. In doing so we not only displace our faith, as the dictionary says, from God to whatever....but we also take away the Bible's definition of faith.....Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things NOT seen.

What I mean by displacing your faith is this.... putting your faith in someone or something besides God. This is as simple as looking to your spouse to provide a resolution to a problem or expecting everything to be "OK" once that promotion comes along. Now, I don't mean that we shouldn't hold our spouses, our family or our friends to certain standards and expectations (although they will

always let us down at one time or another.) And we should set goals pertaining to our careers, schooling and other things that we are passionate about.... But we shouldn't displace our faith by putting it in our spouse, our family or our jobs.

If we will only look to our Heavenly Father to take care of our needs and answer our prayers, we will be so surprised at where the answers can come from when we finally are able to see them at their completion.

In my case, once I realized that I was looking to my husband to "fix" things, it was easy to realize that my displaced faith was actually preventing God from putting things in place for my prayers to be answered. Now, mind you, we all know that God can answer my prayers through my husband....or by any way he chooses....but he will only answer it when I finally look to him. When I focus on him and his promises as my *evidence (of things not seen.)* Once I do that I am quickly given proof (substance.) That proof is suddenly welling up inside of me in the form of HOPE!

When your FAITH is back in the right place.... the proof (or substance) of that is that it brings you HOPE!! Not frustration, not anger, not sadness....but HOPE.

I don't know about you, but I like it when I feel HOPE. Hope is a great thing....not only does it feel good and make me anxious in a good way....but it is biblical proof that I have put my faith right back where it belongs....

.....In God.

*Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.*

**Until next month....**

**Happy Trails & God Bless!  
Christa**

## **Last & most important thought...**

**Salvation is a gift and a choice.....**

Jesus died on the cross as the final sacrifice. When He was resurrected on the 3rd day, he defeated Satan for us. All we have to do is believe that He beat death and acknowledge it with our words. If we believe that and accept Him as our personal savior...we are promised eternal life with Him in Heaven. You can't earn your way into Heaven; you have to believe your way there. So many people think they "aren't good enough" to get to Heaven... But... Salvation is a GIFT from God and you don't earn a gift. Gifts are something someone gives to you and for the gift to be yours, you have to accept it. All we have to do is accept that wonderful gift. I know I have...won't you?

***But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many. Romans 5:15***

***For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16***

***That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. Romans 10: 9-10***