

# Faith-Based Plan For Novices

1-2 Thessalonians

# Faith passages (1-2 Thessalonians)

- Faith, faithful, faithfulness: 14 x
- Synonyms: reliability, fidelity, commitment, trust, confidence, etc.

Faith passages are designed to –

- Encourage us to focus on faithfulness (vital to our salvation).
- Elbow us with dissatisfaction over our past growth.
- Exclude the unfaithful from eternal life – faith is serious.

# I. The List

1 Th.1:3, remember work of faith

2 Th.1:11, fulfill work of faith with power

- Some listen...sing...pray, but these cannot replace action. Rv.2:5.
- Mt.21:28...

# 1 Th.1:8, faith known everywhere

- Ro.1:8
- Faith (good news) is meant to be shared
- Great danger to congregation: death
  - Time
  - Neglect

1 Th.3:2, encourage;  
faith affects others

Comfort, encourage, exhort  
with reference to faith

- Zeal encourages; lukewarmness sickens
- Selfishness focuses on self, not others

# 1 Th.3:5, concern

Paul must know state of their faith

- Check temperature...
- Check faith . . .
  - Devoted (Ja.2:21-23)
  - Dead (Ja.2:24)

3:6, 'good news' of faith

3:7, comforted over their faith



# 1 Th.3:10, perfect what lacks

**Perfect:** complete, restore what lacks of faith

- Make list of faults; check them off
- “I” can improve

# 1 Th.5:8, breastplate of faith and love

- Bullet-proof vest . . .

1 Th.5:8	Ep.6:14,16,17
Breastplate: faith / love X	Breastplate: righteousness; Shield: faith
Helmet: hope of salvation	Helmet: of salvation

## 2 Th.1:3, faith increases

Ro.10:17. Hb.10-11

- Want more faith? Hear (read, study...)
- Be encouraged by examples of faith, living and dead (2 Th.1:4)
- Be moved by exhortations of others (Hb.13:22)
- Act on knowledge (Mt.25)
- Grow in good works, Rv.2:19

## 2 Th.1:4, boast of faithfulness

- Abraham – Gn.12 . . . 22 / Hb.11; Ja.2
- BUT: Ga.3-4, imitators

## 2 Th.2:13, belief of truth

- Ac.17:11, lifetime attitude
- Christians are holy haters (2:9-12)

## 2 Th.3:2, not all have faith

- Don't let their unbelief influence you
- Hb.3-4

I. The List

II. The Lessons

# Faith alone is not an option

- 1-2 Thessalonians = James 2 / Hb.11
- Active, obedient faith is 'good news'
  - What is lazy, stagnant, disobedience?  
Abel – Cain
- Denominations preach it...



# Saving faith is not 'directionally challenged'

(Mere action without direction)

- “Just do something” does not save
- 2 Kings 5 . . . ‘do something great’

# Faithfulness is . . .

- Dedicated and Dependable
  - Husband
  - Mt.25:21...

‘Faithful’ is not passive waiting.  
It is doing the job and making the most of the opportunity.

# Faith endures hard times, 2 Th.1:6

- Joseph, Gn.39
- Faith WILL be tested