

The Faith that Follows – Part 2

Luke 9:18-27; Coast Community Church; Pastor Earl Miles; October 23, 2016

God wants you to glorify and enjoy Him by resting in Jesus, hoping in God, and pursuing love.

“Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. – Matthew 11:28

Why are you in despair, O my soul? And why have you become disturbed within me? Hope in God, for I shall again praise Him for the help of His presence. – Psalm 42:5

But the goal of our instruction is love from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. – 1 Timothy 1:5

True faith follows Jesus.

And He was saying to them all, “If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me. – Luke 9:23

The faith that follows Jesus believes and speaks.

¹⁸ And it happened that while He was praying alone, the disciples were with Him, and He questioned them, saying, “Who do the people say that I am?” ¹⁹ They answered and said, “John the Baptist, and others say Elijah; but others, that one of the prophets of old has risen again.” ²⁰ And He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” And Peter answered and said, “The Christ of God.” – Luke 9:18-20

Peter’s great confession was the result of God’s great revelation.

And Jesus said to him, “Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. – Matthew 16:17

The faith that follows is rooted in history.

²¹ But He warned them and instructed them not to tell this to anyone, ²² saying, “The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed and be raised up on the third day.” – Luke 9:21-22

True faith does not require full understanding.

⁵ And the disciples came to the other side of the sea, but they had forgotten to bring any bread.

⁶ And Jesus said to them, “Watch out and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees.”

⁷ They began to discuss this among themselves, saying, “He said that because we did not bring

any bread.”⁸ But Jesus, aware of this, said, “You men of little faith, why do you discuss among yourselves that you have no bread?”⁹ Do you not yet understand or remember the five loaves of the five thousand, and how many baskets full you picked up?¹⁰ Or the seven loaves of the four thousand, and how many large baskets full you picked up?¹¹ How is it that you do not understand that I did not speak to you concerning bread? But beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees.”¹² Then they understood that He did not say to beware of the leaven of bread, but of the teaching of the Pharisees and Sadducees. – Matthew 16:5-12

True faith can coincide with profound unbelief.

³¹ And He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.

³² And He was stating the matter plainly. And Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him.

³³ But turning around and seeing His disciples, He rebuked Peter and *said, “Get behind Me, Satan; for you are not setting your mind on God’s interests, but man’s.” – Mark 8:31-33

True faith needs to grow.

¹⁴ And they had forgotten to take bread, and did not have more than one loaf in the boat with them. ¹⁵ And He was giving orders to them, saying, “Watch out! Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the leaven of Herod.” ¹⁶ They began to discuss with one another the fact that they had no bread. ¹⁷ And Jesus, aware of this, *said to them, “Why do you discuss the fact that you have no bread? Do you not yet see or understand? Do you have a hardened heart?” ¹⁸ HAVING EYES, DO YOU NOT SEE? AND HAVING EARS, DO YOU NOT HEAR? And do you not remember, ¹⁹ when I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces you picked up?” They *said to Him, “Twelve.” ²⁰ “When I broke the seven for the four thousand, how many large baskets full of broken pieces did you pick up?” And they *said to Him, “Seven.” ²¹ And He was saying to them, “Do you not yet understand?” ²² And they *came to Bethsaida. And they *brought a blind man to Jesus and *implored Him to touch him. ²³ Taking the blind man by the hand, He brought him out of the village; and after spitting on his eyes and laying His hands on him, He asked him, “Do you see anything?” ²⁴ And he looked up and said, “I see men, for I see them like trees, walking around.” ²⁵ Then again He laid His hands on his eyes; and he looked intently and was restored, and began to see everything clearly. ²⁶ And He sent him to his home, saying, “Do not even enter the village.” – Mark 8:14-26

Application

1. Don’t accuse ‘little faith’ of being ‘no faith.’
2. Expect to see profound unbelief in your true heart of faith.
3. Give yourself to growth in faith, hope and love.
4. Remember, write and reflect on God’s hand of provision and work in your life.
5. Begin and continue the Christian life by believing in Jesus.

Jesus answered and said to them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He has sent.” – John 6:29