

Answers: Lesson TEN: CLI Leadership Bible Study

How to positively influence the attitudes and actions of others for Jesus Christ

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS Lesson 10: FAITH OF A LEADER

Lesson 10: Faith of a Leader (Day One) *God's Faithfulness*

For the word of the LORD is right and true; he is faithful in all he does. Psalm 33:4

1. Read Psalm 33:4 and fill in the blanks: For the ___word___ of the LORD is ___right___ and ___true___; He is ___faithful___ in all he ___does___.

Definition: The Hebrew word emunah, (אֱמוּנָה) that we translate faithfulness in Psalm 33 is defined as firmness, steadfastness, and fidelity. It means that God is constant, strong and sure. He is loyal, unchanging and consistent. He is trustworthy, dependable and reliable. Fidelity is defined as loyalty to an allegiance, promise or vow.

2. How has God been faithful in our world?

Various answers: Keeps all His promises from His Word, the Bible. Sent His Son to save mankind from our sins. Has not destroyed the world. Keeps the world running i.e. solar system etc. Answers prayer. Protects and provides. Unconditional love.

3. How has God been faithful in *your* life?

Personal Answer - but may include some from question 2 above.

4. Think deeply (meditate) on God's faithfulness described in the above paragraphs. How does this part of God's character help you to trust Him?

Personal Answer – but we are placing our faith in a God who is totally trustworthy at all times. We trust God because He is dependable, reliable, unchanging and true with us and with all people.

Definition: Faith is defined as “trusting commitment of one person to another, particularly of a person to God. Faith is the central concept of Christianity. One may be called a Christian only if one has faith.”¹

¹ Butler, Trent C., Holman bible Dictionary, Homan bible Publishers, Nashville, TN, 1991, p 469.

Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures through all generations. The LORD is faithful to all his promises and loving toward all he has made. Psalm 145:13

5. Read Psalm 145:13. The LORD is faithful to _____ **all** _____. His _____ **promises** _____ and _____ **loving** _____ toward _____ **all** _____. He has _____ **made** _____ (13b).

Definition: The word promise can be defined as a vow or pledge to do or provide something. A promise will cause someone to expect something. In Christianity, promise is God’s announcement of His plan of salvation and blessing to His people.

Read Joshua 21:45 in the NIV and NKJ versions below:

Not one of all the LORD's good promises to the house of Israel failed; every one was fulfilled. Joshua 21:45

Not a word failed of any good thing which the LORD had spoken to the house of Israel. All came to pass. ^{NKJ} Joshua 21:45

6. According to both translations of Joshua 21:45, why can you place your faith in God?

Because God keeps His promises and His word. All happen or come to pass.

7. Explain in your own words why God’s faithfulness and the reliability of the Bible are related?

God and His word cannot be separated. God’s words are part of His character. If what God says in the Bible is not true, then His trustworthiness or faithfulness could be questioned.

8. As a Christian leader, how will you improve in your own faithfulness to God and to others?

Personal Answer

Personal Application: Meditate on God’s Faithfulness: Deuteronomy 7:9, 32:4, 1 Corinthians 1:7-9, 10:13; 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24 and 1 John 1:8-10.

^{NIV} **Deuteronomy 7:9** Know therefore that the LORD your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commands.

^{NIV} **Deuteronomy 32:4** He is the Rock, his works are perfect, and all his ways are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is he.

^{NIV} **1 Corinthians 1:7-9** Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed.⁸ He will keep you strong to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.⁹ God, who has called you into fellowship with his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, is faithful.

^{NIV} **1 Corinthians 10:13** No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.

^{NIV} **1 Thessalonians 5:23** May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.
²⁴ The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it.

^{NIV} **1 John 1:8** If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.¹⁰ If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word has no place in our lives.

Read Psalm 89:1-2 and answer questions 9-11:

I will sing of the LORD's great love forever; with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known through all generations.² I will declare that your love stands firm forever, that you established your faithfulness in heaven itself. Psalm 89:1-2

9. Pray about this and then share with one person today or tomorrow how God has been faithful to you and how this helps you place your faith in Him. Please write the person's response(s):

Personal Answer

10. Ask God if there is anything else He would like you to do in regard to the person that you shared about His faithfulness (Question 9). Share what God said and how you followed up:

Personal Answer

11. What is another practical way that you can help others trust in the Faithful One?

Personal Answer

Lesson 10: Faith of a Leader (Day Two) *Trust the Promises of God*

Definition: Bless means to give someone a desirable quality, state, gift, or talent. God is the source of *all* blessings. When we bless God, we praise Him for His faithfulness, goodness, mercy and love. Being blessed is a state of happiness and well being that is found in a faith relationship with God and obedience to Him.

"And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel." Genesis 3:15 (*Note: God is speaking to Satan in the Garden of Eden. Enmity describes the hatred and hostility that will exist between mankind and Satan. Through Eve's offspring (descendants), a Savior is to be born to defeat Satan.)

12. Read Genesis 3:15. What is the one unifying (makes into one unit) promise of the Bible?

From Genesis through Revelation, the promise of the Messiah, the Christ, brings together the whole of Scripture.

Definition: Condition in the sense of a promise or agreement means that something must exist for something else to happen. In order for God's promise to take place or occur, we must be in a state of faith or do something.

Read Romans 10:9-10 and answer questions 13-14:

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.¹⁰ 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

13. What is the condition for being saved from God's wrath and eternal punishment?

The condition for salvation rests in a person's outward and inward response to Christ as Savior and Master. It is not a one time response but a lifetime commitment of faith.

14. How are you meeting the qualifications of this promise of salvation?

Personal Answer

1. "I will make you into a great nation and 2. I will bless you; 3. I will make your name great, and 4. you will be a blessing.³ 5. I will bless those who bless you, and 6. whoever curses you I will curse; and 7. all peoples on earth will be blessed through you." Genesis 12:2-3

15. Read God's promise to Abraham in Genesis 12:2-3. List the seven parts of this promise:

- (1. I will make you into a great nation
- (2. I will bless you
- (3. I will make your name great
- (4. you will be a blessing
- (5. I will bless those who bless you
- (6. whoever curses you I will curse
- (7. all peoples on earth will be blessed through you

Read Galatians 3:6-9 and answer questions 16-19:

Consider Abraham: "He believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness."⁷ Understand, then, that those who believe are children of Abraham.⁸ The Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and announced the gospel in advance to Abraham: "All nations will be blessed through you."⁹ So those who have faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith. Galatians 3:6-9

16. Fill in the appropriate blanks and think about the words carefully as you write them:

Consider Abraham: "He believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness."⁷

Understand, then, that those who believe are children of Abraham.⁸ The Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and announced the gospel in advance to Abraham: "All nations will be blessed through you."⁹ So those who have faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

17. Are you a child (descendent) of Abraham (v. 7)? Yes No (Circle one)

Personal Answer

18. If you answered yes, that you are a child of Abraham, how did you become his descendant?

By trusting and following Jesus.

19. What do you think the value is of knowing that you are a child or an offspring of Abraham?

We are children of the promise – i.e. we are partakers of God’s promises to Abraham.

Abraham is also our spiritual father and we can rightfully trust the promises that are meant for Abraham’s children. In other words, we are in the family of God and are blessed. In Christ, we have the ability to bless the people of the earth by carrying forth the truth of the gospel.

20. If you answered no, that you are not a child of Abraham, explain your answer:

Personal Answer – Bible Minister, please read your Learner’s answer carefully and respond appropriately.

Personal Application: Pray for guidance, read, and meditate on Romans 4:13-25.

21. What did the Holy Spirit impress upon your heart from this passage of Scripture?

Personal Answer - Bible Minister, please read your Learner’s answer carefully and respond appropriately.

Lesson 10: Faith of a Leader (Day Three) *Faith is Progressive*

We ought always to thank God for you, brothers, and rightly so, because your faith is growing more and more, and the love every one of you has for each other is increasing.

2 Thessalonians 1:3

22. Read 2 Thessalonians 1:3. Paul writes to the church at Thessalonica and comments on their *faith*. What does he write about it?

Your faith is growing more and more

Therefore, among God's churches we boast about your perseverance and faith in all the persecutions and trials you are enduring. 2 Thessalonians 1:4

23. Read 2 Thessalonians 1:4. Under what conditions was the believer's faith growing?

Persecutions and trials

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him. Hebrews 11:6

24. Hebrews 11:6 states that without ___ **faith** ___ it is ___ **impossible** ___ to please ___ **God**.

Read Luke 22:32 and answer questions 25-26:

"But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers." Luke 22:32

25. Why did Jesus pray for Simon Peter?

So that his faith would not fail

26. After Peter turned back, what was he supposed to do?

Strengthen his brothers

Definition: The Greek word that is translated faith in the above two scriptures is pistis (πίστις). It is a noun that means the state of believing on the basis of the reliability of the one trusted. It is trust and confidence in God in the active sense.²

Definition: The "sinner's prayer" is a name given to a prayer whereby a person admits that he or she is a sinner and accepts by grace Christ as Savior and Lord. The prayer is meant to be a first step and decision to give up control of one's life and follow Christ forever. Sadly, some misunderstand and think it is a one time prayer and then, life as usual.

² Frederick William Danker based on Walter Bauer's A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and the Early Christian Literature, 3rd edition, University of Chicago Press, Chicago & London, 2000.

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus,²⁰ by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body,²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God,²² let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. Hebrews 10:19-22

27. Read and meditate on Hebrews 10:19-22. List three things that your faith in Jesus makes possible for you:

- (1. Confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by His blood (v. 19)
- (2. Draw near to God (v.22)
- (3. Cleansed from a guilty conscience (v. 22)

Personal Application: Meditate on and memorize Hebrews 12:2.

28. Write Hebrews 12:2 from memory:

Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

29. What assurance do you have that your faith will progress or go forward in the right way?

Scripture (Hebrews 12:2) tells us that Jesus is the author and perfecter (he makes our faith perfect). Jesus is our assurance.

Lesson 10: Faith of a Leader (Day Four) *Attitudes Affect Faith*

In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Ephesians 6:16

30. Read Ephesians 6:16. What do you take up when Satan, the evil one, begins his attack or character assassination on you?

Shield of faith

Read Psalm 139:13-14 and answer questions 31-34:

For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb.¹⁴ I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well Psalm 139:13-14

31. Who created your inmost (deepest) being? _____ God _____

32. Who knit you together in your mother's womb? _____ God _____

33. When you have a bad attitude about yourself or others, who are you ultimately putting down and why?

God, because He created everyone and designed every person in His image. Thus having a bad attitude about yourself or others is like we are saying God's workmanship is poor.

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. Genesis 1:27

34. Man, which includes male and female, is created to be like God, resembling Him in certain ways. How does this affect the way that you think about yourself?

Personal Answer – but should make one feel positive about him or herself.

God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground." Genesis 1:28

35. Read Genesis 1:28 and fill in the blanks: God told the man and the woman to “fill the earth

and ___ subdue ___ it. ___ Rule ___ over the fish of the sea and the ___ birds ___ of

the air and ___ over ___ every ___ living ___ creature that moves on the ground.”

"But I tell you who hear me: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you." Luke 6:27-28

With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in God's likeness. James 3:9

Definition: Cursing is not only exclaiming foul words, it is also saying evil or hurtful things about another human being. Even hoping for evil to come to another is silent cursing and definitely wrong. Cursing is also lightly esteeming others or making someone loathsome³.

36. Read Luke 6:27-28 and James 3:9. Practice “blessing” others this week, and not “cursing.” Share the difficulties or joys in this assignment and what God revealed to you:

Personal Answer - Bible Minister, please read your Learner's answer carefully and respond appropriately.

³ Butler, Trent C., Holman Bible Dictionary, Holman Bible Publishers, Nashville, TN, 1991.

Personal Application:

We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. 2 Corinthians 5:20

Definition: An ambassador is a diplomat sent by one country as a representative to another for a purpose or mission. A diplomat is someone who is tactful and sensitive in working or dealing with other people.

God has chosen you. You have exactly what God wants to use in leading and influencing others for the Kingdom. **Build your faith** in God by confessing (agree; declare) with Scripture about who you are in Christ.

For example, confess 2 Corinthians 5:20: I am Christ's ambassador. God makes appeals through me. I implore others on Christ's behalf so they are reconciled to God.

37. Look up, read, personalize and confess these Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 14:3; 1 Thessalonians 1:4-5, 2:6-8; Philippians 2:13-16 and Revelation 1:5-6. Write the Scripture that resonated (impact) with your spirit the most:

Personal Answer - Bible Minister, please read your Learner's answer carefully and respond appropriately.

^{NIV} **1 Corinthians 14:3** But everyone who prophesies speaks to men for their strengthening, encouragement and comfort.

^{NIV} **1 Thessalonians 1:4-5** For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you,⁵ because our gospel came to you not simply with words, but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and with deep conviction. You know how we lived among you for your sake.

^{NIV} **1 Thessalonians 2:6-8** We were not looking for praise from men, not from you or anyone else. As apostles of Christ we could have been a burden to you,⁷ but we were gentle among you, like a mother caring for her little children.⁸ We loved you so much that we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well, because you had become so dear to us.

^{NIV} **Philippians 2:13-16** for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.¹⁴ Do everything without complaining or arguing,¹⁵ so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe¹⁶ as you hold out the word of life-- in order that I may boast on the day of Christ that I did not run or labor for nothing.

^{NIV} **Revelation 1:5-6** and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood,⁶ and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father-- to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.

Lesson 10: Faith of a Leader (Day Five) *Strengthening your Faith*

38. Can you share a time when you really believed God for something and it did not happen?

Personal Answer - Bible Minister, please read your Learner's answer carefully and respond appropriately.

39. If you had a story to share above, how did this affect your faith in God? What did you learn?

Personal Answer - Bible Minister, please read your Learner's answer carefully and respond appropriately.

They had such a sharp disagreement that they parted company. Barnabas took Mark and sailed for Cyprus,⁴⁰ but Paul chose Silas and left, commended by the brothers to the grace of the Lord. Acts 15:39-40

40. Read Acts 15:39-40. What happened because of the disagreement between Barnabas and Paul?

Barnabas took Mark and sailed for Cyprus, but Paul chose Silas and left. Paul and Barnabas went separate ways.

Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, because he is helpful to me in my ministry. 2 Timothy 4:11 (Note: Paul was in prison and writing years after Act 15:39)

41. Read 2 Timothy 4:11. Since Mark turned out to be faithful, who do you think was more discerning of God's will in this instance, Barnabas or Paul (Acts 15:39-40)?

Barnabas

Paul and his companions traveled throughout the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been kept by the Holy Spirit from preaching the word in the province of Asia.⁷ When they came to the border of Mysia, they tried to enter Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus would not allow them to. Acts 16:6-7 (Note: The Holy Spirit and the Spirit of Jesus are one and the same)

42. Read Acts 16:6-7. What faith lesson do you learn from this passage?

Personal Answer – but here are a couple of thoughts from this lesson: If you misunderstand God, His Spirit will get you back on the right path. He works in unique and wondrous ways to keep us moving in the right direction. Paul acted on what he knew and what he believed to be God's plan. He acted in faith. He was not always correct, but God was always faithful.

Personal Application:

43. Write any faith challenge that you are experiencing right now?

Personal Answer - Bible Minister, please read your Learner's answer carefully and respond appropriately.

44. Please write how your Bible Minister may pray for you?

Personal Answer - Bible Minister, please pray for your Learner's request and respond that you have prayed.

Lesson 10: Faith of a Leader (Day Six) Faith in Spite of Circumstances

Elijah was afraid and ran for his life. When he came to Beersheba in Judah, he left his servant there,⁴ while he himself went a day's journey into the desert. He came to a broom tree, sat down under it and prayed that he might die. "I have had enough, LORD," he said. "Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors." 1 Kings 19:3-4

45. Read 1 Kings 19:3-4. Was Elijah discouraged? **Yes** No (Circle one) Depressed? **Yes** No (Circle one) Was Elijah trusting God? Yes **No** (Circle one)

The LORD said, "Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake.¹² After the earthquake came a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper. 1 Kings 19:11-12

46. Read 1 Kings 19:11-12. What do you think is the significance of the LORD telling Elijah to go out and stand on the mountain in His presence?

God showed Elijah that he must get his focus off his circumstances (Ahab and Jezebel; 1 Kings 19:1-18). The right focus is God. God is greater than any problem, no matter how severe.

Personal Application: Memorize Jeremiah 17:7-8

47. Write Jeremiah 17:7-8 from memory without referring to your Bible or notes:

"But blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, whose confidence is in him.⁸ He will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit."

- End Lesson 10 -

Next: Lesson 11: Knowing God's Will

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