



Ladies of Grace  
Bible Studies for Women

*A Woman & Her Walk With God Series*

Encouraging Women to Walk With God on the Brighter Side of Life

# A Woman & Her Faith

*"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."  
Hebrews 11:1*

Today I am going to talk to you about a Woman and Her Faith. There are two kinds of faith that a Christian woman possesses, a "saving faith" and a "believing faith." We have already talked about a woman and her saving faith, so today I would like to share with you how to develop and utilize the precious gift of "believing faith" that will help you make biblical decisions in the midst of the ups and downs of your life.

As I begin, I want to make a statement that I want you to meditate upon, ***"Your faith is encouraged by what you believe in, and it is evidenced by where you place your hope."*** Although this is my thought for you, and not a Bible verse, I believe it is very biblical in nature, and it will be the foundation of the lesson that I want to teach to you today. As we walk with God in the midst of our everyday lives, we encounter many trials and temptations, don't we? Let's face it, there is hardly a day that passes by when there is not tension in our relationships, illness strikes, disappointment comes, bad news is heard, loved ones struggle, financial need overwhelm us, or we feel just plain lonely, depressed, or discouraged. Ups and downs are a natural part of living in a sinful world, and as we walk with God, He wants us to learn how to deal with them in a biblical way.

Have you ever stopped to think about the way that **you** deal with the struggles in your life? When you have a problem, where is the first place that you turn to? Is your first response to pray, or read God's Word and obey it? When illness or disease strikes, where is the first place you turn to for advice about healing? Do you ask your Pastor about it? Do you turn to God's Word or ask for God to be the one who heals you? If you are like the majority of Christian women, you turn to everything BUT the Lord and the local church to help you when you are dealing with the everyday struggles of life.

Why do you think Christian women would do this? It is because they have more faith in the world around them, than in the God that lives above them. Let's list some common places that Christian women turn to when they need help in any situation:

- ◆ The public school
- ◆ The government
- ◆ Doctors
- ◆ Parents
- ◆ Friends
- ◆ Spouses
- ◆ Children
- ◆ Themselves
- ◆ Money
- ◆ Knowledge & Strength
- ◆ Secular authors & talk show hosts
- ◆ Psychiatrist, or therapist
- ◆ Self-help books
- ◆ New age gurus
- ◆ Health Food Stores
- ◆ Food
- ◆ The Bank
- ◆ Credit Cards
- ◆ Support Groups
- ◆ Over the counter drugs
- ◆ Cigarettes
- ◆ Alcohol

And you know why women do this? *Because their faith in God is weak.* As I have been preparing for this study, the Lord has revealed to me how my weak my own faith is when I struggle in certain areas of my life. For instance, when I feel anxious, you know what I do? I get cranky and overeat! What do YOU turn to when you are struggling or feeling anxious or overwhelmed about something? Did you know that this is where the real hope of your heart is placed? That's convicting, isn't it? But you know, God knows our frame, and He knows that we are weak, but as we walk with Him, He wants us our faith to grow to the point that it will be placed in Him and not in the world around us. And today, I would like to use this study to help us learn from God's Word how we can strengthen our faith in a way that will help us to put our hope in God and His Word, which is the right place.

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# *A Woman & Her Walk With God Series*

## **LORD, INCREASE MY FAITH!**

In Luke 17:5, we find the disciples asking Jesus to increase their faith. He had just finished teaching them about the tough subject of offences and forgiveness, and they were having a hard time believing in what He had said. And this is exactly where many of us are (with the Lord) as well. We know what He says in His Word, but because they sound so tough to us, we have a hard time genuinely putting our faith into it.

*So, how does a Christian woman increase her faith?*

1. **Believe that Jesus is who God says He is.** (John 6:28-29) The Bible tells us that Jesus is the Son of God, the Word that became Flesh, the Light of the World, the Prince of Peace, the Great Physician, Our Salvation, the King of Kings, the Head of the Church, the Miracle Worker, and many other things. As you and I begin to truly believe that Jesus is exactly who God says He is, then we will gain great confidence in the fact that He can help us. You see, the main reason that many of us put our hope in the organizations of this world is because we think that they will be more help to us than the Lord. But as we become more familiar with the greatness of God through Jesus Christ, we will see that there is nothing that could be further from the truth.
2. **Be filled with the truths of God's Word.** (Romans 10:17) Your faith in God will only grow in proportion to your knowledge of His Word. That is why it is so important that you attend church (as many times a week as you can), and that you memorize God's Word (so that you can repeat it to yourself when you need it).

## **LORD, USE MY FAITH!**

*How does a Christian woman use her faith in her everyday life?*

1. She uses it to please God. (Hebrews 11:6)
2. She uses it to overcome the obstacles in her life. (I John 5:4)
3. She uses it to defend herself. (Ephesians 6:16)

## **LORD, SHOW ME THE EVIDENCE OF MY FAITH!**

*Is there any evidence in the Bible that using our faith will really work? Let's read Hebrews chapter 11 and find out.*

1. Yes! It has been used to make sure that sinners got saved.
2. Yes! It has been used to protect the righteous as God punished the wicked.
3. Yes! It has been used to produce offspring in the barren.
4. Yes! It has been used to help a man lead a rebellious nation.
5. Yes! It has been used to bring the dead back to life again.
6. Yes! It has been used to make sure that the sick got better.
7. Yes! It has been used to make sure that the lame was made whole.
8. Yes! It has been used to protect those in danger from getting hurt.

Believing faith has broken the chains of the innocent while they were in prison, healed the brokenhearted, rid people of demons, restored broken marriages, returned prodigals to their families, met financial and material needs, built churches, helped the blind to see, and so many more amazing things to those that have chosen to place their faith in God alone.

Before I close, I want to share with you two passages of the Bible that God uses to show us what happens in our lives when we place our hope in Him, and what happens to our lives when we don't: Psalm 146:1-10; Jeremiah 17:5-8.

In both of these passages, God makes these two warnings clear:

1. Don't put your trust in the government or other secular men, for there is no real help found in them.
2. You will be cursed for trusting in the fleshly ways of secular men, and it will draw you away from trusting in the Lord.

But He also makes these two promises to those of us that will choose to put our complete faith in Him:

1. Our eyes will be opened
2. We will be exalted
3. He will always take care of us and our children (even when we are widowed & they are fatherless)
4. That our lives will be fruitful & blessed

I don't know about you, but I would rather my life be blessed, than cursed, and I would rather be taken care of by God, than falsely helped by the ways of man. May God bless us all as we work hard to increase our faith and place our hope in the Lord!

*There's an old Christian Song that goes:*

Have Faith in God  
when your pathway is lonely.

He sees and knows  
all the way you have trod.

Never alone are the  
least of his children.

Have Faith in God  
He'll answer yet.

Have Faith in God.

He's on His throne.

Have Faith in God  
He watches over His own.

He cannot fail.

He must prevail.

Have Faith in God.

Have Faith in God.