

What Does It Mean to Lead a Life of Faith? (1)

Introduction:

- A. God has delivered “the _____” (*Jude 3*) once for all.
- B. Those who have obeyed the gospel have been “_____ to the Lord” (*Acts 16:14-15*).
- C. Collectively, “believers” (*Acts 2:44*) comprise “the household of _____” (*Gal 6:10*).
- D. What, then, does it mean to live a life of faith? (*1 Thes 1:2-10*)

I. The Meaning and Foundation of Faith

A. *Faith* can be used in a variety of contexts—to trust, to confide, fidelity.

- 1. To trust (_____) — *Acts 8:12*.
- 2. To confide (_____) — *James 1:6; 1 Pet 2:6*.
- 3. Fidelity (_____) — *Rev 2:10; 2 Tim 2:2*.

B. These three components of faith are progressive.

- 1. **Belief** (intellectual credence) is the beginning point (*Heb 11:1,6*).
- 2. Belief which is nurtured grows into **confidence** (self-surrendering reliance, *Phil 4:10-13*).
- 3. Mature confidence ultimately bears the fruit of **fidelity** (unswerving loyalty, *2 Tim 4:7-8*).

C. Each component of faith is built upon the solid evidence of the character of God himself.

- 1. He has demonstrated _____, which is worthy of our trust (*Tit 1:1-2; 2 Tim 2:13*).
- 2. He has demonstrated _____, which is worthy of our confidence (*Rom 8:31-32*).
- 3. He has demonstrated _____ and _____, which are worthy of our fidelity (*2 Tim 1:8-12*).

D. **BOTTOM LINE:** We can have faith *in* God and be faithful *to* God because he is a *faithful* God (*1 Cor 1:9; 10:13; 2 Thes 3:3*).