



Faith Lifestyle Series



Part 2



Discern the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ

1 Corinthians 11:27-29 (NIV)

27 So then, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord.

28 Everyone ought to examine themselves before they eat of the bread and drink from the cup.

29 For those who eat and drink without discerning the body of Christ eat and drink judgment on themselves.

Exodus 12:11 (NIV)

11 This is how you are to eat it: with your cloak tucked into your belt, your sandals on your feet and your staff in your hand. Eat it in haste; it is the LORD's Passover.

Exodus 12:13 (NIV)

13 The blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are, and when I see the blood, I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt.

FAITH NUGGETS

- Everyday is faith school. An opportunity to exercise what God says in His Word, especially to you.
- Daily, we are in constant battle between the **old** man and the **new** man.
- Faith, believes.

Fruitful Faith, believes and acts.

James 2:24 (MSG) - Is it not evident that a person is made right with God not by a **barren faith** but by **faith fruitful** in works?

- Belief is a choice. Unbelief is equally a choice.

TYPES OF FAITH IDENTIFIED IN SCRIPTURE. Cont'd

- 7) Dead (Useless) Faith**
- 8) Demonic Faith (Faith of demons)**
- 9) Fruitful Faith (Faith fruitful in works)**
- 10) Great Faith**
- 11) Strong Faith**
- 12) Weak Faith**

James 2:14-18 (NLT)

14 What good is it, dear brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but don't show it by your actions? Can that kind of faith save anyone?

15 Suppose you see a brother or sister who has no food or clothing,

16 and you say, "Good-bye and have a good day; stay warm and eat well"—but then you don't give that person any food or clothing. What good does that do?

17 So you see, faith by itself isn't enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless.

18 Now someone may argue, "Some people have faith; others have good deeds." But I say, "How can you show me your faith if you don't have good deeds? I will show you my faith by my good deeds."

James 2:19-23 (NLT)

19 You say you have faith, for you believe that there is one God. Good for you! Even the demons believe this, and they tremble in terror.

20 How foolish! Can't you see that faith without good deeds is useless?

21 Don't you remember that our ancestor Abraham was shown to be right with God by his actions when he offered his son Isaac on the altar?

22 You see, his faith and his actions worked together. His actions made his faith complete.

23 And so it happened just as the Scriptures say: "Abraham believed God, and God counted him as righteous because of his faith." He was even called the friend of God.

James 2:24-26 (NLT)

24 So you see, we are shown to be right with God by what we do, not by faith alone.

25 Rahab the prostitute is another example. She was shown to be right with God by her actions when she hid those messengers and sent them safely away by a different road.

26 Just as the body is dead without breath, so also faith is dead without good works.

7) Dead (Useless) Faith

James 2:14-17 (NLT)

14 What good is it, dear brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but don't show it by your actions? **(Qn. 1)** Can that kind of faith save anyone? **(Qn. 2).**

15 Suppose you see a brother or sister who has no food or clothing,

16 and you say, "Good-bye and have a good day; stay warm and eat well"—but then you don't give that person any food or clothing. What good does that do? **(Qn. 3).**

17 So you see, faith by itself isn't enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless.

7) Dead (Useless) Faith

James 2:20, 26 (NLT)

20 How foolish! Can't you see that faith without good deeds is useless? (Qn. 4).

26 Just as the body is dead without breath, so also faith is dead without good works.

- **Dead (useless) faith is characterized by**
 - believe and no corresponding action. vs 14
 - inability to save a person. vs 14
 - insensitivity to physical needs. vs 15-16
 - selfishness. Inability to give voluntarily. vs 16
 - believe, accompanied by zero good deeds. vs 17

Outcome of Dead (Useless) Faith

1) Fruitlessness and Lack of increase

John 12:24 (NIV)

24 Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds.

According to the principle of increase from scripture, we are required to sow what we have and patiently wait for a harvest.

8) Demonic Faith (Faith of demons)

James 2:18-19 (NLT)

18 Now someone may argue, “Some people have faith; others have good deeds.” But I say, “How can you show me your faith if you don’t have good deeds? **(Qn. 5)**. I will show you my faith by my good deeds.”

19 You say you have faith, for you believe that there is one God. Good for you! Even the demons believe this, and they tremble in terror.

Demons believe these...and they are correct

(1) Demons know Jesus

Mark 1:34 (NIV)

34 and Jesus healed many who had various diseases. He also drove out many demons, but he would not let the demons speak because they knew who he was.

Mark 3:11 (NIV)

11 Whenever the impure spirits saw him, they fell down before him and cried out, “You are the Son of God.”

Mark 5:6-7 (NIV)

6 When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and fell on his knees in front of him.
7 He shouted at the top of his voice, “What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? In God’s name don’t torture me!”

Demons believe these...and they are correct

(2) Demons believe in one God (monotheism)

James 2:20 (NLT)

19 You say you have faith, for you believe that there is one God. Good for you! Even the demons believe this, and they tremble in terror.

(3) Demons believe that Jesus is Holy

Mark 1:23-24 (NLT)

23 Suddenly, a man in the synagogue who was possessed by an evil spirit cried out,

24 “Why are you interfering with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!”

Demons believe these...and they are correct

(4) Demons know that an appointed time has been set for their destruction.

Matthew 8:28-29 (NLT)

28 When Jesus arrived on the other side of the lake, in the region of the Gadarenes, two men who were possessed by demons met him. They came out of the tombs and were so violent that no one could go through that area.

29 They began screaming at him, “Why are you interfering with us, Son of God? Have you come here to torture us before God’s appointed time?”

However,...

(1) Demons have a good theology however, (their) theology without love is very destructive.

Galatians 5:13-15 (NLT)

13 For you have been called to live in freedom, my brothers and sisters. But don't use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature. Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love.

14 For the whole law can be summed up in this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself."

15 But if you are always biting and devouring one another, watch out! Beware of destroying one another.

Faith and love are twin virtues.

However,...

1 Corinthians 8:1 (NLT)

1 Now regarding your question about food that has been offered to idols. Yes, we know that “we all have knowledge” about this issue. But while knowledge makes us feel important, it is love that strengthens the church.

(2) Demons do not have saving faith.

9) Fruitful Faith (Faith fruitful in works)

James 2:20-26 (NLT)

20 How foolish! Can't you see that faith without good deeds is useless?

21 Don't you remember that our ancestor Abraham was shown to be right with God by his actions when he offered his son Isaac on the altar?

22 You see, his faith and his actions worked together. His actions made his faith complete.

23 And so it happened just as the Scriptures say: "Abraham believed God, and God counted him as righteous because of his faith." He was even called the friend of God.

24 So you see, we are shown to be right with God by what we do, not by faith alone.

25 Rahab the prostitute is another example. She was shown to be right with God by her actions when she hid those messengers and sent them safely away by a different road.

26 Just as the body is dead without breath, so also faith is dead without good works.

Characteristics of Fruitful Faith (Faith fruitful in works)

- A believe system accompanied by corresponding actions.
(Faith in God, completed by actions, confidently).

James 2:24 (MSG)

24 Is it not evident that a person is made right with God not by a barren faith but by faith fruitful in works?

10) Great Faith

Matthew 8:5-8 (NIV) – Faith of the Centurion

5 When Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him, asking for help.

6 “Lord,” he said, “my servant lies at home paralyzed, suffering terribly.”

7 Jesus said to him, “Shall I come and heal him?”

8 The centurion replied, “Lord, I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. But just say the word, and my servant will be healed.

9 For I myself am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I tell this one, ‘Go,’ and he goes; and that one, ‘Come,’ and he comes. I say to my servant, ‘Do this,’ and he does it.”

10 When Jesus heard this, he was amazed and said to those following him, “Truly I tell you, I have not found anyone in Israel with such **great faith**.”

10) Great Faith

Matthew 15:21-28 (NIV) – Faith of the Canaanite Woman

21 Leaving that place, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon.

22 A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, “Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is demon-possessed and suffering terribly.”

23 Jesus did not answer a word. So his disciples came to him and urged him, “Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us.”

24 He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel.”

25 The woman came and knelt before him. “Lord, help me!” she said.

26 He replied, “It is not right to take the children’s bread and toss it to the dogs.”

27 “Yes it is, Lord,” she said. “Even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master’s table.”

28 Then Jesus said to her, “Woman, you have **great faith!** Your request is granted.”

And her daughter was healed at that moment.

Characteristics of Great Faith

1) Great faith is demonstrated when we show compassion through praying for others.

Matthew 8:6 (NIV)

6“Lord,” he said, “my servant lies at home paralyzed, suffering terribly.”

Matthew 15:22 (NIV)

22“Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is demon-possessed and suffering terribly.”

Characteristics of Great Faith

2) Great faith is unselfish. Seeks help for others.

Matthew 8:5 (NIV)

5 When Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him, asking for help.

Matthew 15:25 (NIV)

25 The woman came and knelt before him. “Lord, help me!” she said.

Characteristics of Great Faith

3) Great faith is demonstrated and expressed through full dependence on the Word of God.

Matthew 8:8 (NIV)

8 The centurion replied, “Lord, I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. But just say the word, and my servant will be healed.

Matthew 15:23-27 (NIV)

23 Jesus did not answer a word. So his disciples came to him and urged him, “Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us.”

24 He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel.”

25 The woman came and knelt before him. “Lord, help me!” she said.

26 He replied, “It is not right to take the children’s bread and toss it to the dogs.”

27 “Yes it is, Lord,” she said. “Even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master’s table.”

Characteristics of Great Faith

4) Great faith is tenacious.

Matthew 15:23-28 (NIV)

23 Jesus did not answer a word. So his disciples came to him and urged him, “Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us.”

24 He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel.”

25 The woman came and knelt before him. “Lord, help me!” she said.

26 He replied, “It is not right to take the children’s bread and toss it to the dogs.”

27 “Yes it is, Lord,” she said. “Even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master’s table.”

28 *Then Jesus said to her, “Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted.” And her daughter was healed at that moment.*

11) Strong Faith

Ephesians 1:15-17 (NLT)

15 Ever since I first heard of your strong faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for God's people everywhere,

16 I have not stopped thanking God for you. I pray for you constantly,

17 asking God, the glorious Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, to give you spiritual wisdom and insight so that you might grow in your knowledge of God.

Strong Faith

1 Peter 1:7 (NLT)

7 These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your **faith remains strong** through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world.

Acts 16:4-5 (MSG)

4-5 As they traveled from town to town, they presented the simple guidelines the Jerusalem apostles and leaders had come up with. That turned out to be most helpful. Day after day the congregations became **stronger in faith** and larger in size.

Strong Faith

Colossians 2:5 (NLT)

5 For though I am far away from you, my heart is with you. And I rejoice that you are living as you should and that your faith in Christ is strong.

12) Weak Faith

Weak faith vs Strong Faith

- Romans 4:19-22 (NKJV)

19 And not being weak in faith, he did not consider his own body, already dead (since he was about a hundred years old), and the deadness of Sarah's womb.

20 He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God,

21 and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform.

22 And therefore "it was accounted to him for righteousness."

Weak faith vs Strong Faith

- Romans 4:19-22 (KJV)

19 And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sarah's womb:

20 He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God;

21 And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.

22 And therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness.

WEAK FAITH

- 1) Focuses and depends on physical evidence(s) and circumstance(s).

Romans 4:19 (NKJV)

19 And not being weak in faith, he did not consider his own body, already dead (since he was about a hundred years old), and the deadness of Sarah's womb.

Hebrews 11:11 (NKJV)

11 By faith Sarah herself also received strength to conceive seed, and she bore a child when she was past the age, because she judged Him faithful who had promised.

STRONG FAITH

- 1) Strong faith does not depend on physical evidence(s) and circumstance(s).

It depends on the substance and evidence of the Word of God only.

Hebrews 11:1 (KJV)

1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

WEAK FAITH

2) Stagger.

STRONG FAITH

2) Strong faith does not waver (stagger) at God's promises.

Romans 4:20 (KJV)

20 He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God;

WEAK FAITH

3) Does not glorify God through words and action (due to inconsistency.)

4) Is not fully convinced in the promises and ability of God.

STRONG FAITH

3) Glorifies God (through words and actions).
Romans 4:20 (NKJV)
20...giving glory to God,

4) Is fully convinced in the promises and ability of God.

Romans 4:21 (NKJV)
21 and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform.

WEAK FAITH

5) Not rewarded.

Hebrews 10:38 (NKJV)

38 Now the just shall live by faith; But if anyone draws back, My soul has no pleasure in him."

STRONG FAITH

5) Rewarded.

Romans 14:22 (NKJV)

22 And therefore "it was accounted to him for righteousness."

Grow in Strong Faith

Colossians 2:7 (NLT)

7 Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness.

NB;

- We grow strong in faith when we are established in the word of God.
- Strong faith is also developed when we develop a very good understanding of our spiritual identity in Christ and become fully established in it.

Our Faith Stance and Declaration

Galatians 2:20-21 (NKJV)

20 I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

21 I do not set aside the grace of God; for if righteousness *comes* through the law, then Christ died in vain.”

2 Corinthians 5:7 (NKJV)

7 For we walk by faith, not by sight.

1. Measure of Faith
2. Faithless (Unbelief)
3. Sincere Faith
4. Human Faith
5. Feign Faith
6. Presumptuous Faith

- 7) Dead (Useless) Faith
- 8) Demonic Faith (Faith of demons)
- 9) Fruitful Faith (Faith fruitful in works)
- 10) Great Faith
- 11) Strong Faith
- 12) Weak Faith



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