

The EXPERIENCE Bible Study

November 23, 2021

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Pastor



# GROWING MY FAITH Lesson 1



## SCRIPTURE REFERENCE

▶ "The apostles said to the Lord, Show us how to ***increase*** our faith" (Luke 17:5 NLT)

"The apostles said to the Lord, Make our faith ***greater.***"  
(Luke 17:5 GNT)

"The apostles said to the Lord, ***Increase*** our faith!"  
(Luke 17:5 NIV)



## FAITH MYTHS

▶  
**Myth #1**: I don't have any faith. (Myth Buster: "...be honest in your evaluation of yourselves, measuring yourselves *by the faith God has given us.*" Romans 12:3 NLT)

**Myth #2**: Faith doesn't work. (Myth Buster: "And he said to her, Daughter, your faith *has made you well.* Go in peace. Your suffering is over." Mark 5:34 NLT)

**Myth #3**: I don't need faith to live. (Myth Buster: "For we *live* by faith, not by sight." 2 Corinthians 5:7 NIV)

## IMPORTANT REMINDER

God RESPONDS to the DEMONSTRATIONS of our FAITH!

"Seeing their faith, Jesus said to the man, young man, your sins are forgiven." (Luke 5:20 NT)

"And it is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him." (Hebrews 11:6 NLT)



## ▶ IMPORTANT REMINDER

### 1. We don't all have the same level of faith!!

*"When Jesus heard this, he was amazed. Turning to the crowd that was **following** him, he said, I tell you, I haven't seen faith like this in all Israel."* (Luke 7:9)



## TEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE (Luke 17:1-10)

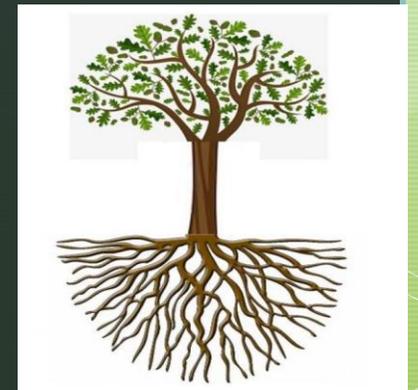
1. This section contains 4 units: ***warning*** against causing someone to stumble; a ***challenge*** to be forgiving; a ***call*** to exercise faith; ***reminder*** of the duties of discipleship.

2. The audience has now shifted back to the disciples (vs.1). The focal point with this change in audience is to alert the disciple to the ***demands that come along with faith, in both a communal and individual life setting.***



## TEXTUAL HIGHLIGHTS (vs.5)

1. The disciples respond to Jesus' admonitions to live by a kingdom ethic with a plea that matches the high standard for their lives – ***"Increase our faith!"***
2. Previously, Jesus had challenged the disciples by asking ***"Where is your faith?"*** (Luke 8:25) and their plea highlights the fact that faith is a **dynamic process** and that one can grow in their faith.
3. Faith is not a static event but rather a transformational journey!!



## TEXTUAL HIGHLIGHTS (vs.5)

4. They ask Jesus to add to OR strengthen their faith because they recognize that ***faith is not just a matter of their own strength.***

5. Jesus responds by ***redefining*** their understanding of faith – they sought MORE faith in order to live up to the expectations placed upon them.

6. Jesus shatters their illusions about faith by saying ***they don't need MORE faith but understand that faith enables God to work in a person's life that defy ordinary human experiences.*** (Vs.6)

# KEY TAKEAWAYS

1. Jesus assures the disciples that even with a **LITTLE** faith they can live by his teachings on discipleship!
2. The disciple can do what God **REQUIRES** – through faith – but the disciple can never do **MORE** than is required.

“ Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase.”

Martin Luther King Jr.



# FAITH CHALLENGE

**3**  
**WAYS**  
**TO**  
**GIVE**



Mail a check to  
Third Baptist Church  
1214 Victoria Blvd  
Hampton, VA 23661



[www.thirdbaptisthampton.org](http://www.thirdbaptisthampton.org)

Click: Give

OR

Text "1214V" to 73256



# THANKSGIVING DAY



The flyer features a background image of a church service with people raising their hands. In the top left corner is the church's crest, which includes a crown, a cross, and the letters 'TBC' with 'L.O.A.D.' below it. The text 'THIRD BAPTIST CHURCH' is positioned above the main title. The main title 'THANKS' is in large, bold, yellow letters, with 'Giving' in a white script font and 'MESSAGE' in white block letters. The date and time '25TH NOVEMBER 10:00am' are displayed in yellow and white. A small inset photo of Pastor John F. Kenney is shown on the left side. The bottom section is a blue bar with white text for contact information, and a white bar below that with blue text for the church's address and website.

**THIRD BAPTIST CHURCH**

# THANKS

*Giving* MESSAGE

25TH NOVEMBER  
10:00am

Pastor John F. Kenney

**Church Online**  
[www.thirdbaptisthampton.org](http://www.thirdbaptisthampton.org)

**Conference Call**  
667.770.1476, code: 290035#

**Livestream**  
f @TBCLiveWord

1214 Victoria Blvd  
Hampton, VA 23661  
(757) 247-3212

www.thirdbaptisthampton.org

## PRAYER

Almighty God, we have *exercised* faith by following Jesus, help us now to exercise *greater* faith by USING the level of faith we already have, to fulfill the expectations You have for us. Let every area of our lives *demonstrate* the faith we have in You, so that You might work in ways that *defy* human experience. In Jesus name, Amen!

Let's  
Pray!