

Fruit of the Spirit Faith

Dr. David Shaw

1. Faith is best understood as trust. It means relying on God, abiding by God's will, and counting on God to fulfill His promises. The opposite of faith leads to idolatry. Faith is both a gift from God and is warranted by the character of God.
2. Paul's model of faith is Abraham (Romans 4)
 - a. God said to Abraham, "Pack up everything you own, abandon your relatives, and move to a new country." Abraham obeyed because he put more trust in God than he did in himself, his own thoughts, or any other source of authority
3. Faith in the secular world is plain, simple, and understood by all. When someone believes in a business deal, they act on it. The principle is exactly the same in Christianity. He who does not act upon what he has heard in God's Word is simply a man who does not believe.
4. Why don't we trust God more? Review God's promises to you as recounted in Scripture. See Matthew 7:7; 6:25-33. Do you believe these or not? Are you willing to count on them or not?
5. Fill in the blanks. Faith comes by _____, and hearing by the _____ of _____. If your faith needs to be built up, what is one answer?
6. What does it mean to walk by sight and what does it mean to live by faith? Why is it hard to do both at the same time?