God's Workmanship

Romans 4:18-22 P-1752

Intro: Throughout the Gospels, Jesus commended those who believed in Him. At one point, His disciples asked Him to increase their faith. That's a request we should all make of the Lord because every Christian needs strong faith to go through challenges and walk in obedience to God.

Due to our limited knowledge of the Lord and His Word, we all begin our life in Christ with **little faith**. Throughout the Christian life, we'll face times when our faith is weak, but as we grow, the struggles will diminish, and our trust in the Lord will increase.

There are three stages of faith.

Romans 4:20 summarizes Abraham's experience. With respect to the promise of God, he did not waver in unbelief but grew strong in faith, giving glory to God.

Stage One – Little Faith

Illustrations of Little Faith.

Matthew 8:23-27 P-1508

Matthew 6:25-30 P-1505

Mathew 9:19-24 P-1509

Stage Two—Great Faith

Illustrations of Great Faith.

Matthew 8:5-10 P-1507

Matthew 14:22-27 P-1520

Stage Three – Perfect Faith.

Illustrations of the Three Stages of Faith.

The record of Abraham's life shows how he moved from one stage of faith to the next.

Stage One. When the Lord promised that he'd have a son through Sarah, his doubt made him laugh and ask that Ishmael be accepted instead. Genesis 17:15-18 P-23

Stage Two. In Genesis 18:1-15, P-24 the Lord said Sarah would give birth within a year. She too laughed and doubted God, but when she conceived, her faith and Abraham's soared as they saw the Lord fulfill His promise.

Stage Three. By the time God told Abraham to offer Isaac as a sacrifice, his faith had become so strong that he obeyed immediately even though the Lord had said that Isaac would be the heir to all the promises. Genesis 22: 1-9 P-31

Abraham was so confident in God's faithfulness that he believed the Lord would raise Isaac from dead if necessary to keep His promise.

Remembering past experiences that demonstrate His faithfulness increases your confidence in the Lord today.

ALL THANGS ARE POSSIBLE TO HIM THAT BELIEVES.