

Day 12 Colossians 2: 6-8

We have all probably said it and we all probably have had it said to us.

“Just have faith.”

When we are struggling that comment doesn't encourage our faith. On the contrary, it usually makes us just feel bad for the lack of it.

In truth, faith is not something we can muster up within ourselves. Especially when our hearts have had a beatdown and we are questioning everything we believe.

But even when we feel like our faith is flat, we can still have the assurance that it is with us. The reason for that is because faith is a gift. Let's read a verse in Ephesians.

Ephesians 2: 8-9

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God - not by works, so that no one can boast.

So, if faith is a gift, why do we feel like we never have enough of it? Why do other people seem to have more of it?

When describing what something is, it's often helpful to know what it is not. Especially if we have preconceived ideas.

Faith is not a superpower. It is not a magical formula either. Faith isn't a tool that we wave before God to get what we think we want or need. It is not denial that things aren't going great in our lives.

In Hebrews 11:1 we are given a biblical definition of faith.

Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.

Faith is the practice of walking out our salvation regardless of what we see with our eyes. It is the practice of having more confidence in our future hope than the sight of our present. It's not easy because it's not intuitive. This is why we have to practice it.

In Colossians it tells us that good faith is faith that is firm and strengthened by its source, Christ.

The Bible helps us expand on this thought, as it says Jesus is not only the source our faith, but the author and finisher of it. This is a verse to go to when we're feeling depleted of our faith.

Hebrews 12:2-3

And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and the perfecter of faith.

We don't have to worry about our lack of faith because even in our doubt because Jesus is always perfecting it. Everything that comes in our lives will be dealt with by the author of our faith. And he will finish our story because it is His story.

And we are His glory.