

Healing Class – September 23, 2026
Faith: Trusting God Enough To Act
Derrick Thompson

What is Faith?

Biblical Faith is confident trust in God's character, God's Word, and God's power that results in obedient action.

- The original Hebrew and Greek words emphasize **trust, confidence, conviction, faithfulness, and steadfast reliance upon God.**

Hebrew Definition of Faith (Old Testament)

Strong's H530 - 'Emunah (אֱמוּנָה) Pronunciation: em-oo-naw'

Meaning: Firmness, Fidelity, Steadfastness, Faithfulness, Trustworthiness, Steady confidence

Strong's H539 - 'Aman (אָמַן)

Meaning: To support, To confirm, To establish, To be faithful, To trust, To believe

- This is the same root from which we get the word "**Amen**", meaning: "So be it," "It is true," or "I firmly agree."

Key Takeaway: In Hebrew thought, faith is not merely believing something is true. Faith is being steadfastly anchored to God because He is trustworthy.

Habakkuk 2:4

"The just shall live by his faith."

- The word "faith" here is '**emunah**', which carries the idea of faithful trust and steadfast dependence upon God.

Application to Naaman

Naaman demonstrated faith **when he finally trusted God's word enough to obey it.** His faith was demonstrated by action, not merely agreement.

Greek Definition of Faith (New Testament)

Strong's G4102 - Pistis (πίστις)

Meaning: Faith, Belief, Trust, Confidence, Conviction, Reliance upon

Key Takeaway: A firm persuasion or conviction based upon hearing.

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Key Components of Pistis

1. Conviction that something is true.
2. Trust in the person speaking.
3. Reliance upon that truth in daily life.

Mark 11:22

Then Jesus said to the disciples, "Have faith in God.

Ephesians 2:8

God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God.

Application to Naaman

Naaman moved from skepticism to complete trust. **He relied upon the prophet's word and acted on it.**

Here Is An Easy Contrast:

Belief says, "I think God can heal me."

Faith says, "I trust God enough to obey Him and act upon His Word."

- Many people believe God exists. Faith goes one step further and says: "Because I trust Him, I will respond to what He says."

A Good Healing Class Definition of Faith

Faith is confident trust in God's character and God's Word that produces faithful obedience, even before the results are seen.

How Do We Connect this back to Naaman: In 2 Kings 5, faith is seen in four stages:

1. **Hearing** God's word through the servant girl.
 2. **Choosing** to trust God's promise.
 3. **Submitting** to God's method.
 4. **Obeying** until the miracle came.
- Naaman's healing did not begin when he dipped in the Jordan.
 - His healing journey began the moment he chose to trust God's word over his own understanding.

Hebrews 11:1

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

- Faith is confidence in God before you see the results.

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Hebrews 11:6 (NKJV)

But without faith it is impossible to please him...

- Faith is the foundation of our relationship with God.

What Faith Is Not

1. Faith Is Not Wishful Thinking

- Faith is based on God's Word, not human optimism.

Romans 10:17 (NLT)

So faith comes from hearing, that is, hearing the Good News about Christ.

2. Faith Is Not Feelings

- Faith trusts God whether feelings agree or not.

2 Corinthians 5:7 (NKJV)

For we walk by faith, not by sight.

3. Faith Is Not Demanding Our Way

- Faith submits to God's wisdom and timing.

Isaiah 55:8-9 (NLT)

"My thoughts are nothing like your thoughts," says the LORD. "And my ways are far beyond anything you could imagine. ⁹ For just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so my ways are higher than your ways and my thoughts higher than your thoughts."

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Lessons About Faith From Naaman's Story – 2 Kings 5:1-19

1. Faith Begins With Humility

- Naaman was a great military commander, but his position could not heal his leprosy. His title, power, and resources could not solve his problem.
- Before faith can work, pride must be surrendered.

James 4:6 (NLT)

And he gives grace generously. As the Scriptures say, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

For Us To Remember: Many people struggle to receive healing because they are relying on their own wisdom, strength, or experience instead of fully depending on God.

2. Faith Responds To God's Word

- A young servant girl shared the word about the prophet Elisha.
- Naaman's healing journey began when he heard a word of hope.

Romans 10:17

"Faith cometh by hearing..."

Psalms 107:20 (NLT)

He sent out his word and healed them, snatching them from the door of death.

For Us To Remember: Faith for healing begins by hearing what God says concerning healing.

3. Our Faith Must Move Beyond Information Into Action

- Naaman believed enough to travel to Israel seeking healing. **2 Kings 5:9** "So Naaman came with his horses and with his chariot..."
- Faith prompted movement.

James 2:17 (NIV)

In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

For Us To Remember: Faith is more than agreeing with God's promises. It takes steps in response to those promises.

4. Faith Trusts God's Method

- When Elisha instructed Naaman to wash seven times in the Jordan River, Naaman became offended. **2 Kings 5:10** "Go and wash in Jordan seven times, and thy flesh shall come again to thee..." **2 Kings 5:11** "But Naaman was wroth..."
- He expected God to heal him differently.
- Many people have faith in God's power but struggle with God's process.

Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIV)

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; ⁶ in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Isaiah 55:8-9 (NIV)

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the LORD. ⁹ "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

For Us To Remember: Faith trusts God even when His instructions seem simple, unusual, or different than expected.

5. Faith Requires Obedience

- Naaman's healing was connected to his obedience. **2 Kings 5:14** "Then went he down and dipped himself seven times in Jordan... and his flesh came again like unto the flesh of a little child."
- The miracle happened after obedience.

John 2:5 (NIV)

His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

Deuteronomy 28:1-2 (NIV)

If you fully obey the LORD your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, the LORD your God will set you high above all the nations on earth. ² All these blessings will come on you and accompany you if you obey the LORD your God:

For Us To Remember: Delayed obedience is often delayed blessing.

6. Faith Perseveres Until The Promise Is Fulfilled

- Naaman had to dip seven times. Imagine if he stopped after the sixth dip.
- Faith continues trusting God even when immediate results are not visible.

Galatians 6:9 (NIV)

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

For Us To Remember: Don't quit before God completes what He has promised.

