



Definition of Faith

Faith is something we know about, but when it comes to defining what faith really is there are a myriad of responses.

I was raised to understand that the definition of faith is simply the absence of doubt. But, when I went to college I had a professor tell me that the definition is belief despite doubt.

So what really is faith? As I have studied what faith is, I have realized that it is much more than just having belief whether doubt is in existence or not. According to Romans 10:17 (NKJV) *“So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”*



In the end faith comes by spending time with God in His word. So I define faith as a relational trust of God. By spending time with Him we come to know Him and trust Him. We come to know through experience that He has our backs and will be there with us to support us in the good times and the bad.

May your faith in Him always grow,
Pastor Robert Harvey ○●○



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UPLIFT

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Church@FarmingtonAdventist.net

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Saturdays at 9:30 a.m.
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Dinner Is On Us!

Join us for an
Italian Dinner Buffet

5:30 p.m. Sunday
March 29, 2020

Farmington SDA Gym
403 2nd Street

Please RSVP by March 14, 2020 to
Events@FarmingtonAdventist.net

All are
invited!



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○○○ WINTER 2020 ○○○



Spiritual Lessons From a Flat Tire

○○○ Lyle Keeney

*“If I have told you earthly things,
and ye believe not...”*



I had told my daughter that the
tires on her car were low, that she
needed to air them up, or else
bad things could happen. Not fully
understanding what “bad things”
might mean, she put it off. She’d
always gotten where she wanted to
go, so why worry?

A few days later, I’m very busy with
work when I get a phone call from
her. She’d had a blowout on the
highway; catastrophic tire failure.
She was OK, but stranded on the
roadside, not knowing where to
look for her spare tire, jack and lug
wrench. She’d only recently ac-
quired that car, and hadn’t taken the
time to familiarize herself with such
things, so I told her over the phone
where to look for the spare, and said
that I’d be right over to help.

So I
dropped
what I was
doing and went to help her. She’d
found the spare tire, but not the
jack, so I helped her find it. It was
an old car, with an old jack that was
dried out. The threads stuck, and
she’d never have been able to oper-
ate it, but I got the car jacked up and
removed the lug nuts. Now the old
steel rim was rusted onto the hub
and wouldn’t budge even when I
repeatedly kicked it as hard as I could
with the heels of my work boots.

I had to fetch my longer, heavier tire
iron from my pickup and beat on the
old rim as hard as I could before it fi-
nally came loose. Even if she’d found
all her tools, even if they’d all been in
good working order, she’d never have
been able to change that tire. She’d
never heard of a wheel rusting onto

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Hope

—●●● Wes Wagner (farmer.ww@hotmail.com)—

I believe in God; a sovereign God for the whole universe.

I believe in creation which proceeded from that same God (Gen. 1:1).

I believe that God created freedom of choice when He created man and woman.

I believe He defends our right to choose good and fiercely defends our right to make stupid choices as well, even though it deeply troubles Him.

Our ancestors made a terrible choice and we, humanity, continue their tradition of making stupid choices; choices that end in loss, pain, disease and destruction of self and others.

I believe that *many* of the tragic events of our lives result from not choosing to do what God says will protect us (Psalms 53:1).

In spite of our rejection of God, I believe that He refuses to give up on any sinner who may turn to Him for

hope and are just trying to manage the pain that we have and some of us see no other option but to end our lives (Job 11:20).

But there's hope. I believe that God can fix any problem that you have, struggle with or will encounter in your future. ANYTHING (Psalms 31:24; 57:7)!

I believe that God can make us perfect; that He promises to do that and has accomplished our forgiveness by His son, Jesus, taking our punishment.

I believe that Jesus, was God from eternity past and in an act of indescribable humility, chose to be born a human as the son of God—this is beyond my understanding—to repair the breach in our relationship with Him.

I believe that He was resurrected from the dead because there was no fault found in Him. He didn't deserve what He got. We do. And yet He took it on Himself for us.

I believe all humanity owes Him our very existence; our very lives because of what He did.

I believe that each of us have proven that we cannot fix ourselves. Self-medicate? Sure. Ignore our faults? Absolutely. But fix them? Not a chance. I've failed for over 50 years. But there is a way.

Every day our actions answer only one question: Do we

trust God or self? Given the state of our culture, I think it's pretty obvious that most have chosen and continue to choose to trust self. It's to be expected (Rom. 3:23). You can't choose anything else (Rom. 8:7). It's our nature. We simply don't have the power

to be different. But there is a way.

Here it is: Believe that you are forgiven, that Jesus took your punishment and ask Him for the power that changes human hearts; the Holy Spirit (Eph. 3:16-20; John 3:16-17).

Do not despair. There is hope. If you

want to learn more about the miraculous power of the Holy Spirit changing your heart, contact us. Let's talk (Isaiah 1:18).

If you're already experiencing God's life changing power, please share your stories with us. ●●●

Randy's Ramblings

—●●● Randy Eastman—

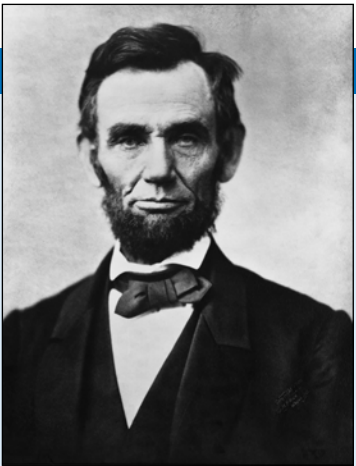
During the Civil War one of the worst offences that a soldier could commit was sleeping while on guard duty. The seriousness of this breach of military rule was due to the fact that an entire company of soldiers could be surprised and overwhelmed by an enemy that they had no idea was anywhere near their proximity.

So, both Union and Confederate armies alike would order the posting of sentries whenever they were in a state of encampment. As the lives of their fellow soldiers depended upon them sounding the alarm, a soldier found guilty of sleeping while on sentry duty was usually sentenced to death by firing squad.

During the war, the families of Union soldiers convicted and condemned for sleeping on duty, would appeal to President Abraham Lincoln for pardon or leniency. President Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate States of America once said that "The worst use of a soldier is to shoot him", and both men often commuted the sentences of condemned soldiers.

President Lincoln once granted an audience to the mother of one such soldier so condemned. As Lincoln listened to the young man's mother passionately plead for the life of her son, he asked, "Madam, why do you believe that your son deserves mercy?", to which she replied, "Mr. President, if he deserved it, it would not be mercy".

You and I, dear reader, have all sinned. We have all been found guilty of breaking the law of Heaven. We are all living under the sentence of death, "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Rom. 6:23 NKJV). We deserve justice but what we plead for is mercy. Thankfully we have a Father in Heaven that delights in mercy, "Who is a God like You, pardoning iniquity and passing over the transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He does not retain His anger forever, because He delights in mercy" (Micah 7:18 NKJV). Through His Son, God has imparted that mercy and grace to each one of us who asks for it. "But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved)" (Eph. 2:4,5 NKJV). ●●●



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the hub so hard you'd have to beat it with a hammer to get it loose.

Once the old wheel was off we discovered that her spare tire was dead flat. So, even if she'd been able, somehow, to loose the rim with some good hard whacks, she'd still have had a flat spare.

This is what you'd call an impossible situation. One minute you're cruising along as pretty as you please, and the next minute you're dead in the water. Adrift. Stuck along the roadside.

"...how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things?" John 3:12

When we fail to heed or to understand God's word, His law, His instructions to his beloved children, bad things happen. We usually don't understand until it's too late, until we're stranded along the road of life, unable to fix things ourselves.

But we can always reach Him through prayer. He knows exactly what we need even when we don't. We may be perplexed, we may see a situation as hopeless, but there's nothing which perplexes Him, and we know that He loves us.

So I explained to my daughter; just as you can call your earthly father, the father you can see, and he will come to your rescue, so too can you call your Heavenly Father; the Father you cannot see. When stranded along the road of life, with a "rusty jack", a "stuck wheel" and a "flat spare", the Father we cannot see, the one who loves us more than any earthly father can, is there to solve the seemingly impossible.

God gives us the tools in the form of His Word, the Bible, which is the instruction manual for the traveler on the road of life. But we must familiarize ourselves with those tools, keep them ready at hand and in our minds and hearts, and practice in their use. Having and learning to use those tools can make the difference between a disaster and a minor inconvenience. God, who loves His children, will answer your calls when you're "stuck on the roadside". ●●●



Lentil Haystacks

Any legume (peas, lentils or beans) plus any grain (corn or rice, wheat, etc.) provides a complete protein. This is one of the secrets of living and growing healthy on a mainly plant-based diet.

Haystacks are a quick and delicious way to enjoy the benefits of lentils. Corn chips or tortilla chips are typically used as a base. Next, layer these salsa-seasoned lentils (or beans or chili). Then finish building your haystack with shredded lettuce and toppings of your choice, such as chopped tomatoes, onions, peppers, olives, corn, rice, jalapenos, guacamole, sour cream and salsa.

2 cups lentils
4 cups water
1-1/2 tsp salt
1 to 1-1/2 cup medium or mild picante sauce

Directions: Sort out field debris and thoroughly rinse lentils. Bring lentils, salt and water to a boil and then simmer for 20-30 minutes over low heat. Stir occasionally, adding more water when needed. When lentils are soft enough to crush with a spoon, stir in salsa and add more salt if needed.

Yield: 5 x 1 cup servings



help. He hopes we will stop putting ourselves in peril (John 6:37).

I believe that no human being can permanently fix the problems they carry.

I believe that many of us have lost