

*How much faith do you  
really have?*

## Faith

*What does it mean to have faith?  
Write down your personal  
definition of faith...*

# Faith

- Hebrews 11:1
  - What is this scripture saying to us about having faith?
    - Faith is being sure of what you hope for
    - Faith is being certain of what you do not see
  - Examples of Faith
    - Being sure of a better relationship with a loved one
    - Being certain that one day you'll have a better job
    - Being confident that you will have better health
    - Being optimistic that you will find your soul mate
    - Being sure that you will have the money you need
      - ...being sure, certain, confident, and optimistic...even though you can't see it right now

## The Disciples' Faith

*Throughout the time that Jesus spent on Earth, He was careful to document several instances when the faith of His disciples was tested. In most cases, their faith was not what it should have been. If the disciples of Jesus had a lack of faith during their tough times...then you know that we, too, will struggle with our faith, at times. If we want to be pleasing to God, we must be strong in our faith. Hopefully, through scripture we can evaluate how much faith we have and seek to improve it.*

## Walking on Water

- Matthew 14: 22-36
  - Peter was okay until he saw the force of the wind blowing. When the wind blew, he was afraid and started to sink.
  - Question for Thought: What does the “WIND” represent in our lives?



## The WIND

*The wind represents those events in our lives that cause us to feel uneasy, stressed, or burdened. The wind represents the times when we are tested...the times when our lives seem to be falling apart.*

*Question for Thought: Have you had any “wind” in your life lately? How did you react to it? How much faith did you have while the wind was blowing?*

## Jesus Calms the Storm

- **Matthew 8: 23-27**

- Verse 24 says that without warning a “furious storm” came. What was the reaction of the disciples?
- Could this storm have been planned or allowed by Jesus to test the faith of the disciples? How does this relate to us today?
- Have you ever had a furious storm in your life?
- How did you respond?
- What role did your faith play in how you responded?

## Jesus Calms the Storm



## The Power of Faith

- **Matthew 9:18-26**
  - Verse 22, Jesus says, “Your faith has healed you”.
  - What is the big message Jesus is sending to all of us?
- **Matthew 9: 27-31**
  - “According to your faith will it be done to you”
  - Is that word from God good news or bad news to us? If our faith is strong, we reap blessings. If our faith is weak, we hinder our blessings.

## The Power of Faith

- **Matthew 17: 14-21**
  - The disciples were unable to drive the demon out. Christ says that it was because they had so little faith. What is the message for us today?
  - If we have faith as small as a mustard seed, the Bible says that nothing will be impossible for us. How much faith do we really have?
- **Matthew 21: 18-22**
  - The scripture tells us that if we have faith and do not doubt, that whatever we attempt to do and whatever we ask for will be done. However, it is important that when we ask, that we ask according to His will.
    - I John 5: 14-15

## *How much faith do you really have?*

- Do you have a faith problem?
- If so, list some reasons why your faith is not as strong as it should be...
- How can you begin to develop more faith?
  - Spend more time in prayer
  - Strengthen your relationship with God through repentance from sin. The stronger relationship you have with God, the more confident you will become that He hears your prayers
  - Study His Word more
  - Look back over your life and see what He has already done for you. If he helped you back then, He'll help you now and in the future...

## Without faith, it is impossible to please God...

- Hebrews 11:6
  - Is a lack of faith hurting your relationship with the Lord?
  - Is it preventing you from being all you can be?
  - Is your fear of *what might happen* causing you to miss a potential blessing?

...if so, you should begin to work on your faith today...