

Today's Theme

“Faithfulness Lived Out”

Series Title

“Making Much of Jesus”

Part 19 August 14, 2022

Understanding Faithfulness

1. Something that can be *counted on*.

Exodus 17:12 When Moses' hands grew tired, they took a stone and put it under him and he sat on it. Aaron and Hur held his hands up—one on one side, one on the other—so that his hands remained steady till sunset.

2. Being *truthful* & keeping *promises*.

Deuteronomy 7:9 Know therefore that the LORD your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commands.

3. Refers to being *reliable*.

Psalms 119:90 Your faithfulness continues through all generations; you established the earth, and it endures.

4. Used by someone worthy of *trust*.

Psalms 111:7 The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy. 8 They are steadfast for ever and ever, done in faithfulness and uprightness.

What A Faithful Person Looks Like

1. My character is *steady* in life.

2. My *track* record is keeping *promises*.

3. Others can *rely on me* in life.

4. Others view me as *worthy of trust*.

Faithfulness = We can be *counted* on!

What is it that *challenges* faithfulness?

1. A *weak connection* to Jesus.

Matt 13:18 “Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: 19 When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart. This is the seed sown along the path. 20 The seed falling on rocky ground refers to someone who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. 21 But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away. 22 The seed falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful. 23 But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.”

2. Life with *shifting values*.

James 1:16 Don't be deceived, my dear brothers and sisters. 17 Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. .

3. Lacking in the ability to *endure*.

James 1:1 James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, To the twelve tribes scattered among the nations: Greetings. 2 Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, 3 because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. 4 Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

How Faithfulness Adds To My Life

1. It's required to be *trusted* by Others.

1 Cor 4:2 Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful.

2. It qualifies me for *spiritual service*.

2 Timothy 2:2 And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others.

3. It makes me *valuable* at work.

Proverbs 25:13 Like the coolness of snow at harvest time is a trustworthy messenger to those who send him; he refreshes the spirit of his masters.

4. It adds to *happiness* in relationships.

Matt 25:21 Come and share your master's happiness!'

5. It will be *rewarded* by God.

Proverbs 28:20 A faithful man will be richly blessed, but one eager to get rich will not go unpunished. Psalm 97:10 Let those who love the LORD hate evil, for he guards the lives of his faithful ones and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.

Psalm 101:6 My eyes will be on the faithful in the land, that they may dwell with me; he whose walk is blameless will minister to me.

John 14:23 Jesus replied, “If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.