



Tried Faith 8

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- **In order to keep our faith intact, we must rid ourselves of faith inhibitors. *2Cor. 6:14 Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?***
- **Faith inhibitors are things that hinder our faith and cause us to doubt God. God tries our faith but never hinders it. His tests never contradict His precepts or principles. *James 1:13 Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:***
- **Faith inhibitors usually come in the form of people that should not have a presence in our lives. When we constantly allow unbelievers access to our minds and hearts, it will birth unbelief in us. *Matt. 7:6 Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you.***

CAUTION
Your Enemies
at
Work

KEEP THE FAITH

- It's hard to maintain a strong level of faith around doubters. People that are not in sync with your beliefs will always create doubt. *1Cor. 15:33 Do not be deceived bad company ruins good morals.*
- Surrounding yourself with people that trust in God and can strengthen your faith is necessary to keep your hope intact. *Prov. 27:17 Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend.*
- We are encouraged and recharged by the testimonies of faith that we see and hear from those that are around us. *1Th. 5:11 Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.*

- **The Bible gives examples of men of faith for a reason. This cloud of witnesses is necessary to encourage us and show us the impossible can be possible through God. *Mark 9:23 Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.***
- **Unbelievers can only promote themselves and their own abilities. They flourish by luck and chance. There is no faith required when you live by chance. *Rev. 3:17 Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:***
- **This doubt and fear that unbelievers harbor will hinder our faith if we keep them close to us. This is why we must surround ourselves with true believers. *1Cor. 5:11 But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat.***

YOU ARE ONLY GOING TO
BE AS GOOD AS THE
PEOPLE YOU SURROUND
YOURSELF WITH, SO BE
BRAVE ENOUGH TO LET
GO OF THOSE WHO KEEP
WEIGHING YOU DOWN.

SUMMARY

The love of the world is the greatest obstacle of faith. All that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, the lust of eye, and the pride of life is the enemy of our faith in God. When we are bombarded with the things of the world through carnal people, we will begin to desire the things of the world and our faith will be challenged. We can believe God for things in His will but it becomes hard to even recognize His will when we are inundated with worldly desires.

The enticement of worldly people works against us and will diminish our faith because faith in God requires self-denial and the world promotes self-fulfillment. Worldly people plant seeds of doubt in us to make us question our faith and trust our own way. In order to truly keep a strong level of faith, without doubt and fear, we must be fortified by like-minded believers and the testimonies of God's cloud of witnesses that never gave up!

Heb. 11:32 And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gedeon, and of Barak, and of Samson, and of Jephthae; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets:

Heb. 11:33 Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions,

Heb. 11:34 Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens.

Heb. 11:35 Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection:

Heb. 11:36 And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment:

Heb. 11:37 They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented;

Heb. 11:38 (Of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

Heb. 11:39 And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise:

Heb. 11:40 God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.

Heb. 12:1 Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,