

Monday: October 26, 2015

Faith is the confidence that what we hope for will actually happen; it gives us assurance about things we cannot see.

Hebrews 11:1 (NLT)

Faith is an integral part of the Christian life.

But what exactly is faith?

As we try to answer that question, today we will see two qualities of faith that go hand in hand, trust and action.

## Faith Is Trust

Faith begins when a person chooses an object in which to trust.

This world is full of people and things in which we can invest our faith. People may put their trust in themselves, their money, their careers, their families, or their causes. Whatever they choose, their faith is evident in their strong allegiance to that object.

Likewise, Christian faith is about trust. Hebrews 11:1 describes Christian faith as "confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see."

However, Christian faith has one distinguishing feature. Although Christians value people and things, they fully invest in something beyond this world. They place their ultimate hope in a personal relationship with God. Christians believe they are able to do this through Jesus Christ, whom they believe is God's son.

## **Faith Is Action**

Faith requires bold action in the face of uncertainty. It is not something you feel; it is something you do. Essentially, faith is hope in motion.

Faith in Christ requires the same resolute movement. The Bible says, "What good is it . . . if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds?" A Christian dares to know and love God without having all of the answers. He fearlessly shapes his life around God through baptism, studying the Bible, prayer, and daily choices.

Hebrews 11:7 illustrates this, "It was by faith that Noah built a large boat to save his family from the flood. He obeyed God, who warned him about things that had never happened before. By his faith Noah condemned the rest of the world, and he received the righteousness that comes by faith."

## **Reflect:**

What step of "trust combined with action" is God calling you to in this Built to Last journey?