

Faithfulness

The Good Life: Fruitful Christian
Living, part 8
Pastor Craig Ferguson

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

Galatians 5:22-23 (NIV)

The faithful love of the Lord never ends! His mercies never cease. Great is his faithfulness; his mercies begin afresh each morning.

Lamentations 3:22-23 (NLT)

What is faithfulness?

1. Faithfulness is loyalty to a belief

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)

If you are wise, live a life of steady goodness so that only good deeds will pour forth.

James 3:13 (LB)

2. Faithfulness is consistency of action

So let's not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up.

Galatians 6:9 (NLT)

If you are faithful in little things, you will be faithful in large ones. But if you are dishonest in little things, you won't be honest with greater responsibilities.

Luke 16:10 (NLT)

3. Faithfulness is dedication to a task

But my life is worth nothing to me unless I use it for finishing the work assigned me by the Lord Jesus—the work of telling others the Good News about the wonderful grace of God.

Acts 20:24 (NLT)

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

Colossians 3:23-24 (NIV)

What are the benefits of faithfulness?

1. Faithfulness pleases to God

And it is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him.

Hebrews 11:6 (NLT)

2. Faithfulness builds character

Make it your ambition to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business and to work with your hands, just as we told you, so that your daily life may win the respect of outsiders and so that you will not be dependent on anybody.

1 Thessalonians 4:11-12

(NIV)

Boaz answered her, "I know about all the help you have given your mother-in-law after your husband died. You left your father and mother and your own country to come to a nation where you did not know anyone.

Ruth 2:11 (NCV)

3. Faithfulness develops a life not easily shaken

Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount Zion, which cannot be shaken but endures forever.

Psalm 125:1 (NIV)

The man of integrity walks securely, but he who takes crooked paths will be found out.

Proverbs 10:9 (NIV)