**Name:** Pastor Rodney Mooney

**Series/Subject:** Faith

**Title:** How to Have Faith in God

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**Confession:** ***This is my Bible, the Living Word of God. I am, what the Word says I am. I have, what the Word says I have. I can do, everything the Word says I can do, and I will do it, in Jesus Name!***

**Text: Hebrews 11:6** And without faith it is impossible to please God. For anyone who approaches Him must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him.

**Introduction:** If God says that we must have faith when it is impossible to do so then He would be unjust. However, if He places faith within our reach and then instructs us to have it then it is our responsibility to have, walk, talk, and live by faith.Obviously, faith in God is not automatic for if it did then all men would be pleasing to Him. Many have questioned what faith is, do they have enough faith, prayed to have more faith, and have failed to act because they questioned their faith. Today we will we see where faith comes from, learn how to access it, and step into a life that pleases God.

1. **Faith Comes by Hearing the Word**
2. **Romans 10:17** So then faith *comes* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.
3. So then: ara (ar'-ah) so then, under these circumstances, therefore
4. “Ara” points back to Paul’s teaching that salvation is available to all who call on Christ (Romans 10:12–13).
5. Faith: pistis (pis'-tis) to be persuaded, to trust in, a belief, a confidence; fidelity, faithfulness.
6. Through His Word, the Lord continually instills faith in the heart of the yielded believer, enabling them to discern His will, and empowering them through His Word to walk it out victoriously as He did.
7. Faith is God's guarantee certifying that the revelation He said in His Word will come to pass exactly that way.
8. From: ek (ek) from (the point whence action or motion proceeds), out (of place, time, or cause), by means of, out from and to
9. “Ek” has a two-layered meaning – out of the depths of the source and extending to its impact on the object.
10. Hearing: akoé (ak-o-ay') act of hearing or listening. It emphasizes used of inner (spiritual) hearing that goes with receiving faith from God, discerning God’s voice.
11. It refers to a report or news that is heard, as well as the fame or reputation that spreads through word of mouth. It highlights the importance of not only the physical hearing, but also hearing with our spiritual ears, that is our openness to hear and embrace the Truth.
12. The word hearing used here is a verb and it is in the present tense, making in a continual exercise or practice.
13. The Living Word of God speaks faith into our heart and when we receive it as the Word of God and allow it into our heart, the faith of God is produced in us.
14. Word: rhéma(hray'-mah)the spoken word as a command or a promise, often with an immediate impact of application, a revealed word.
15. “Rhéma” refers to the spoken Word as opposed to the written Word or "logos" Word. It signifies a specific statement or command, typically emphasizing its immediate significance or effect.
16. So now that we know where faith comes from but how did we get faith to be saved?
17. **Faith to be Saved**
18. **Romans 10:8-10, 13-14** But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith which we preach): 9that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. 10For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

13For “whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.” 14How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?

1. We are saved because we heard the Living Word preached that produced faith in our heart which led to corresponding action which was confession, by which we were born-again!
2. You cannot believe or have faith in God apart from His Word. (Romans 10:17)
3. **Acts 10:1-8** There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius, a centurion of what was called the Italian Regiment, 2a devout *man* and one who feared God with all his household, who gave alms generously to the people, and prayed to God always. 3About the ninth hour of the day he saw clearly in a vision an angel of God coming in and saying to him, “Cornelius!” 4And when he observed him, he was afraid, and said, “What is it, lord?” So he said to him, “Your prayers and your alms have come up for a memorial before God. 5Now send men to Joppa, and send for Simon whose surname is Peter. 6He is lodging with Simon, a tanner, whose house is by the sea. **He will tell** you what you must do.” 7And when the angel who spoke to him had departed, Cornelius called two of his household servants and a devout soldier from among those who waited on him continually. 8So when he had explained all *these* things to them, he sent them to Joppa.
4. Here we see a very devout Greek man who worshiped and prayed to God but was not yet born-again and had no knowledge of what it was.
5. It also shows that devotion and good works are not enough apart from the Gospel.
6. While angels are not authorized to preach the Gospel but they do assist in helping others to do so. In this case they gave Cornelius a specific instruction as to who to send for and where Peter would be.
7. The Great Commission was entrusted to the sons of God alone. (Mark 16:15-20)
8. **Acts 11:13-15** And he told us how he had seen an angel standing in his house, who said to him, ‘Send men to Joppa, and call for Simon whose surname is Peter, 14**who will tell you words** by which you and all your household will be saved.’ 15And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them, as upon us at the beginning.
9. “He will tell you,” “who will tell you words” WORDS
10. This passage reveals to us that faith for salvation comes by hearing God’s Word!
11. In Truth, we cannot believe unless we first hear.
12. Many have tried to pray for faith or blindly hope for something apart from having real Bible faith according to what God has said and promised us.
13. **Real Bible faith begins where the will of God is known!**
14. **Faith to be Healed**
15. **Acts 14:7-10** And they were **preaching the gospel** there.8And in Lystra a certain man without strength in his feet was sitting, a cripple from his mother’s womb, who had never walked. 9*This* man **heard** Paul **speaking**. Paul, observing him intently and seeing that he had faith to be healed, 10said with a loud voice, “Stand up straight on your feet!” And he leaped and walked.
16. Was the man healed because Paul was an apostle?
17. Was he healed according to Paul’s faith?
18. Note 3 things Paul did:
19. He preached the Gospel to the people.
20. He perceived this man had faith to be healed.
21. He told to man to rise and walk.
22. Note 3 things this man did:
23. He HEARD the Gospel preached.
24. He had FAITH to be healed.
25. He acted on what he believed – he leaped and walked!
26. “Paul preached the Gospel” If all Paul preached was the Gospel of salvation, then how did this man get the faith to be healed?
27. **Healing is in the Gospel**
28. **1 Corinthians 2:1-2** And I, brethren, when I came to you, did not come with excellence of speech or of wisdom declaring to you the testimony of God. **2**For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified.
29. Is there more than salvation of our spirit-man included in the Gospel?
30. If so, what else comes with it?
31. **Romans 1:16** For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.
32. Salvation: sótéria (so-tay-ree'-ah) deliverance, to rescue, to save, preservation, safety, prosperity, and health.
33. I am not ashamed of the Good News that Jesus Christ, saves me, delivers me, protects me, prospers me, and heals me!
34. **Acts 8:5-8** Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria and **preached Christ** to them. 6And the multitudes with one accord **heeded** the things **spoken** by Philip, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did. 7For unclean spirits, crying with a loud voice, came out of many who were possessed; and many who were paralyzed and lame were **healed**. 8And there was great joy in that city.
35. Phillip preached the Gospel – Christ to the people and they received the new-birth of their spirit man and they received miracles, healings, and the devils came of out many who were possessed.
36. This occurred exactly as Jesus said it would in the Great Commission. (Mark 16:15-20)
37. The New Testament knows no Christ without Christ the Healer!
38. IF there is no Gospel of healing for us today then we have no basis for the Gospel of salvation either because healing is included in the Atonement.
39. **Isaiah 53:4-5 AMPC** Surely He has borne our griefs (sicknesses, weaknesses, and distresses) and carried our sorrows *and* pains [of punishment], yet we [ignorantly] considered Him stricken, smitten, and afflicted by God [as if with leprosy]. 5But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our guilt *and* iniquities; the chastisement [needful to obtain] peace *and* well-being for us was upon Him, and with the stripes [that wounded] Him we are healed *and* made whole.
40. YES, healing is included in the Gospel. Let us not leave out what belongs to us, IN Christ!

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. Who is the responsible party if you lack faith?
2. Why is hearing the Word of God so important?
3. In Acts 10 why did the angel tell Cornelius to send for Peter?
4. In Acts 14:7-10 the man was healed because he and Paul each did 3 things? What 3 things did each of them do?
5. What does the word “salvation” mean or include?
6. If healing is included in the Gospel and in salvation then why are all believers not only saved but also healed?
7. What will happen as you determine to feed on the Word continually?
8. What is a personal testimony that you have of how you received faith and its result?