

## **That's What Faith Must Be**

Chorus:

To hear with my heart,  
To see with my soul,  
To be guided by a hand I cannot hold,  
To trust in a way that I cannot see,  
That's what faith must be.

1. When the universe fell from His fingertips,  
He decided He wanted some fellowship,  
But the man and the women would not submit,  
So He made a better way...

2. When the moment was right, He sent His own Son,  
And He opened the way so that everyone  
Could have hope and believe that when time was done  
He'd be able to make us one.

3. Now I understand that there is a key.  
It's Jesus in me, a reality,  
That God is in Christ, and that Christ's in me,  
That with faith I see what is unseen.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **AMEN**

### **Confession: Hebrews 11**

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, **the conviction of things not seen.**

By faith we understand **that the universe was created by the word of God.**

By faith we offer our bodies as living sacrifices, **holy and acceptable as our spiritual worship.**

By faith we draw near to you Lord, **believing that you exist and are found by those who seek you.**

By faith we devote ourselves to your Word for the saving of our families.

**By faith we obey your call to go out and live the Gospel, even though we may not know where that will take us.**

By faith we look forward to the city of eternal foundations, designed and built by you.

**By faith we trust you even in old age because we know you are faithful to your promise.**

By faith we live out our lives seeking a homeland; a better country, a heavenly one.

**By faith we trust and obey when tested, knowing that all things are possible with you.**

By faith we bless our children and prepare them to serve you now and for eternity.

**By faith we obey you rather than men.**

By faith we are not ashamed to be called your people.

**By faith we bring our children to Baptism, trusting in your promise and the power of your Word.**

By faith we receive the body and blood of Jesus given and shed for us for the remission of sins.

**By faith we live in the world but are not of the world.**

**O Lord, help us when our faith is too small. Forgive us for our worry. Clothe us in your goodness and mercy. Enable us, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to seek first your Kingdom, to lay up treasure in Heaven, to stay our hearts on you.**

## **ABSOLUTION**

**Genesis 12:1–3** Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. 2 And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

**Hebrews 11:1–12** Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. 2 For by it the people of old received their commendation. 3 By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible. 4 By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain, through which he was commended as righteous, God commending him by accepting his gifts. And through his faith, though he died, he still speaks. 5 By faith Enoch was taken up so that he should not see death, and he was not found, because God had taken him.

Now before he was taken he was commended as having pleased God. 6 And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him. 7 By faith Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving

of his household. By this he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.

8 By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. 9 By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. 10 For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God. 11 By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered him faithful who had promised. 12 Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born descendants as many as the stars of heaven and as many as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.

**John 8:39–59** They answered him, “Abraham is our father.” Jesus said to them, “If you were Abraham’s children, you would be doing the works Abraham did, 40 but now you seek to kill me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. This is not what Abraham did. 41 You are doing the works your father did.” They said to him, “We were not born of sexual immorality. We have one Father—even God.” 42 Jesus said to them, “If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and I am here. I came not of my own accord, but he sent me. 43 Why do you not understand what I say? It is because you cannot bear to hear my word. 44 You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father’s desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies. 45 But because I tell the truth, you do not believe me. 46 Which one of you convicts me of sin? If I tell the truth, why do you not believe me? 47 Whoever is of God hears the words of God. The reason why you do not hear them is that you are not of God.”

48 The Jews answered him, “Are we not right in saying that you are a Samaritan and have a demon?” 49 Jesus answered, “I do not have a demon, but I honor my Father, and you dishonor me. 50 Yet I do not seek my own glory; there is One who seeks it, and he is the judge. 51 Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death.” 52 The Jews said to him, “Now we know that you have a demon! Abraham died, as did the prophets, yet you say, ‘If anyone keeps my word, he will never taste death.’ 53 Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died? And the prophets died! Who do you make yourself out to be?” 54 Jesus answered, “If I glorify myself, my glory is nothing. It is my Father who glorifies me, of whom you say, ‘He is our God.’ 55 But you have not known him. I know him. If I were to say that I do not know him, I would be a liar like you, but I do know him and I keep his word. 56 Your father Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day. He saw it and was glad.” 57 So the Jews said to him, “You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?” 58 Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am.” 59 So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.

## **By Faith**

1. By faith we see the hand of God  
In the light of creation's grand design.  
In the lives of those who prove His faithfulness  
Who walk by faith and not by sight.
2. By faith our fathers roamed the earth  
With the pow'r of His promise in their hearts.  
Of a holy city built by God's own hand  
A place where peace and justice reign.

Chorus: We will stand as children of the promise  
We will fix our eyes on Him our soul's reward  
Till the race is finished and the work is done  
We'll walk by faith and not by sight.

3. By faith the prophets saw a day  
When the longed-for Messiah would appear.  
With the pow'r to break the chains of sin and death  
And rise triumphant from the grave.
4. By faith the church was called to go  
In the pow'r of the Spirit to the lost.  
To deliver captives and to preach good news  
In ev'ry corner of the earth.
5. By faith the mountain shall be moved  
And the pow'r of the gospel shall prevail  
For we know in Christ all things are possible  
For all who call upon His name.

## **Sermon- Beginnings #6 *The Chosen People. Genesis 12***

### **Prayers**

### **Benediction**

### **Christ Our Hope In Life And Death**

1. What is our hope in life and death  
Christ alone Christ alone  
What is our only confidence  
That our souls to Him belong  
What holds our days within His hand  
What comes apart from His command  
And what will keep us to the end  
The love of Christ in which we stand.

**Chorus:**

O sing hallelujah  
Our hope springs eternal  
O sing hallelujah  
Now and ever we confess  
Christ our hope in life and death

2. What truth can calm the troubled soul  
God is good God is good  
Where is His grace and goodness known  
In our great Redeemer's blood  
Who holds our faith when fears arise  
Who stands above the stormy trial  
Who sends the waves that bring us nigh  
Unto the shore the rock of Christ.
  
3. Unto the grave what shall we sing  
Christ He lives Christ He lives  
And what reward will heaven bring  
Everlasting life with Him  
There we will rise to meet the Lord  
Then sin and death will be destroyed  
And we will feast in endless joy  
When Christ is ours forevermore.