

# We live by Faith!

Romans 1:8 First, **I thank** my God through Jesus Christ for you all, that **your faith is spoken of throughout the whole world.** 9 For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of his Son, that without ceasing I make mention of you always in my prayers; 10 Making request, if by any means now at length I might have a prosperous journey by the will of God to come unto you. 11 For I long to see you, that I may **impart unto you some spiritual gift**, to the end you may be established; 12 That is, that I may be comforted together with you by the **mutual faith** both of you and me. 13 Now I would not have you ignorant, brethren, that oftentimes I purposed to come unto you, (but was let hitherto,) that I might have some **fruit among you** also, even as among other Gentiles. 14 I am debtor both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians; both to the wise, and to the unwise. 15 So, as much as in me is, I am **ready to preach the gospel** to you that are at Rome also. 16 For **I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ:** for it is the power of God unto salvation to **every one that believeth;** to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. 17 For therein is the righteousness of God revealed

from faith to faith: as it is written, **The just shall live by faith.**

- Faith among all nations **5 By whom we have received grace and apostleship, for obedience to the faith among all nations, for his name:**
  - The gospel is a world wide invitation, all nations
  - The gospel only works as people obey and believe
  - The obey is to acknowledge your sin, your need, and accept the free gift
- He called us. We are His. **6 Among whom are ye also the called of Jesus Christ:**
  - This word called refers to our being invited, welcomed, appointed. Like those invited to a banquet.
  - This is a word used to refer to us as the saved
  - Jesus has called us to salvation. We have received the gift. We are saved by Him
- We are loved by God **7 To all that be in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.**
  - We love Him because He first loved us
  - He showed His love to us while we were still sinners

- His love is not conditioned on our performance
- Called to be saints **7 To all that be in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.**
- His calling makes us saints
- Saints is a recognition that He has made sinners holy
- Saints refers to the fact that we are no longer who we were
- We are called to be saints. We didn't do it. It is not us but Him

## 1. Faith

- a. Spoken of **8 First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, that your faith is spoken of throughout the whole world.**
  - i. Paul loved the Roman Christians and thanked God for them
  - ii. They had a testimony that was spoken of all over the world. People knew that they loved God
  - iii. We all have a testimony. People have an opinion of our love for God. They may not associate us with God at all.

They may say that we go to church or we are good people. Or they may say, wow He loves his God. He is a super religious person

iv. What are they saying about you?

b. Strengthened **11 For I long to see you, that I may impart unto you some spiritual gift, to the end you may be established;**

i. Growth always follows birth.

ii. They had been saved but still would want to and need to grow

iii. Paul wanted to keep teaching them

iv. They needed more discipleship

v. That is why you should be faithful in your time with other Christians, church services, etc so that you will keep growing and be established

c. Shared **12 That is, that I may be comforted together with you by the mutual faith both of you and me.**

i. Paul quickly lets them know that it is not that he is superior but that they are both growing

ii. He will be comforted by what he sees in them and how God is working in them

iii. He is also a believer and will be benefited

- iv. As you teach others it will not only help them but you
- v. Discipleship cuts both ways. It is the greatest way to grow yourself. When you give you will receive

## 2. Fruit

- a. Desired **13** Now I would not have you ignorant, brethren, that oftentimes I purposed to come unto you, (but was let hitherto,) that I might have some **fruit among you** also, even as among other Gentiles.
  - i. Paul wasn't as in charge of his own schedule as either they or him would like to think and neither are you
  - ii. Paul was hungry to have spiritual fruit
  - iii. He wanted to see the Romans grow but he also wanted God to allow him to see people every where growing
  - iv. Are you hungry to have spiritual fruit?
  - v. What are you doing that will allow you to see people grow in grace and be saved
  - vi. Think of the teacher that died in her late 80s at Old Suwanee Baptist and the over 50 missionaries or preachers that she had taught that raised their hand at the funeral

- b. A debt **14** I am debtor both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians; both to the wise, and to the unwise.
- i. To have received such a wonderful gift makes us debtors
  - ii. We shouldn't just get and take without giving
  - iii. We feel indebted because of the favor we have received
  - iv. His love constrains us! **II Corinthians 5:14** For **the love of Christ constraineth us**; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead: **15** And *that* he died for all, that **they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.**
  - v. We should take the gospel to our friends and get it to the world at the same time
- c. Decided **15** So, as much as in me is, I am **ready to preach the gospel** to you that are at Rome also.
- i. There was no doubt that Paul was ready to preach the gospel any where he went
  - ii. He would preach the gospel to the church because we never get enough and can always learn more

- iii. Are you ready to preach? Have you learned enough to share your faith?
- iv. Are you talking about the gospel with others? Is it a part of your conversation?

### 3. Foundation

- a. Power of God **16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ:** for it is the power of God unto salvation to **every one that believeth;** to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.
  - i. Jesus nor His gospel embarrassed Paul.
    - 1. Some are embarrassed about the truth, about the gospel, about admitting our sin and weakness
    - 2. Some are embarrassed to admit that they believe the Bible and Jesus but Paul was not
    - 3. Do you try to be a secret agent Christian
    - 4. Do people know that Jesus gets the priority in your life?
  - ii. The gospel is all about the power of God
    - 1. It is not about your ability but His
    - 2. It is not about what you do but what He did
    - 3. It is about a God loving us when we didn't deserve it

4. It is about God doing all the work to rescue us from ourselves and our sin
- iii. The gospel of Christ is the gospel
    1. You must know that it is God working through Jesus Christ that brings salvation
    2. It is Jesus dying on the cross
    3. It is Him being buried and raised to life again
    4. It is about the death, burial and resurrection
  - b. Every person **16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ:** for it is the power of God unto salvation to **every one that believeth;** to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.
    - i. It is personal, to every one
    - ii. It is to those that will believe
    - iii. The question is have you believed not have you done
    - iv. Do you believe what He did
    - v. Salvation is available to you if you will believe
  - c. Promise **17 For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.**
    - i. What is important is the righteousness of God not us or ours **Philippians 3:9 And be found in him, not having**



mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:

ii. His righteousness is revealed as we live by faith and not by works

iii. We proclaim Him and what He did and how good He is not us

iv. We are not only saved by faith but continue to live by faith [Colossians 2:6](#) As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: [Galatians 3:1](#) O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently set forth, **crucified among you?** [2](#) This only would I learn of you, Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by **the hearing of faith?** [3](#) Are ye so foolish? **having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh?**

1. The frustration you feel in your Christian life is that you think that God is pleased with you only when you are good

2. You feel like you got saved by His grace but you have to live by your works

3. You are not living by faith. Faith living is knowing that He is the source of everything. He saved you. He keeps you. He works in and through you! You trust Him. He is living in you right now