

Student Lesson

Title: The Power of Faith at the Next Level**Key Verses:**

1 Corinthians 4:2 “Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.”

Luke 19:3-6 “And he sought to see Jesus who he was; and could not for the press, because he was little of stature. And he ran before and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him: for he was to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up, and saw him, and said unto him, Zacchaeus, make haste, and come down; for today I must abide at thy house. And he made haste, and came down, and received him joyfully.”

INTRODUCTION

Today we will discuss the quality of faithfulness and its **Power for the Next Level**. Faithfulness is necessary for every Christian because it is the element that holds us close to God and His ways throughout our lives. It is strongly emphasized in the Bible in various scriptures, and it is really the living out of our faith in God - over time.

The lesson today is designed to provide discussion and insight concerning the importance of faithfulness for every believer.

I. What Is Faithfulness

What is Faithfulness? Faithfulness is the attribute that the children of God should possess in order to live consistently before God, be pleasing in His sight, and carry out His mission and vision here on Earth. It is to be constant and loyal, employing the qualities of stability, dependability, and devotion. Faithful implies long continued and steadfast fidelity to God bound by a charge of love, duty, and obligation.

II. Faithfulness - A God Characteristic

1 Corinthians 10:13 – “There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.”

Psalms 86:15 – “But thou, O Lord, art a God full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering, and plenteous in mercy and truth.”

God performs what He promises. God makes promises in His Word. He promised and made a covenant with Noah, Abraham, Moses and Israel, and the new covenant for believers sealed by the blood of Christ. God also makes promises by His actions.

Summer Quarter Theme: Project Occupy
June Theme: Power for the Next Level

A Few Characteristics that Faith Will Manifest in Our Lives:

- Puts us into a position to please and honor God
- Stretches us beyond average living and into another realm in God
- Helps to develop anointed praise and worship for God
- Challenges us to become all that we can be and live out our purpose

III. God Blesses Those Who Are Faithful

As we step out to trust God at a new level of faithfulness, it is important that we understand that God will always bless those who take a stand concerning His will and His Word. As we walk with God, we can expect to see the great blessings of God manifested in our lives.

We need to consciously push ourselves “out on a limb” in life – like Zacchaeus in **Luke 19:3-6** “And he sought to see Jesus who he was; and could not for the press, because he was little of stature. And he ran before and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him: for he was to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up, and saw him, and said unto him, Zacchaeus, make haste, and come down; for today I must abide at thy house. And he made haste, and came down, and received him joyfully.”

Life is more exciting when you go out on a limb. It is also important to understand that this “faith walk” should really become a lifestyle rather than something you do on occasion. Many Christians wait around for opportunities to come along before they believe God. Remember, it is faith that pleases God, so you are doing at least two things wrong – hindering your life’s productivity, as well as making the Lord very unhappy.

CONCLUSION

Faithfulness is one of the characteristics that God looks for in His children. Everyone in the body of Christ will not have the same abilities, but we all have the obligation to be faithful. Believing, serving, giving, loving and trusting God perpetually equates to biblical faithfulness.