



GOOD NEWS

for the unsaved WORLD!

(#102)
Results of faith (#1).

GENUINE FAITH (Unlike the FAKE.)

Can be used to represent the **whole** process of salvation. (This type of faith doesn't occur without the rest.)

#1 Conviction ⇒ ⇒ Built on the foundation of God's Word.

#2 Change ⇒ ⇒ ⇒ ⇒ Begins with repentance & faith; continues with visible changes.

#3 Consequences ⇒ ⇒ Results in all the blessings of salvation.

GENUINE FAITH (Unlike the FAKE.)

RESULTS in **so many wonderful things!**
(Whether we view them as the result of "faith" or the result of "salvation," the results are the same.)

These RESULTS are NOT from the pursuit of "wonderful things," but from the pursuit of God and his righteousness.

NO!

I LIKE WONDERFUL THINGS! I WANT FUN AND HAPPINESS FOREVER!

YES!

I WANT TO FOLLOW JESUS! I WANT TO REPENT OF MY SINS AND LIVE FOR GOD!

GENUINE FAITH (Unlike the FAKE.)

Here are some of its wonderful results!

#2 Change ⇒ ⇒ ⇒ ⇒ Begins with repentance & faith; continues with visible changes.

★ THE OTHER CHANGES THAT ARE A PART OF THE PROCESS OF SALVATION WILL ALSO BE PRESENT. ★

① EXAMPLE: A willingness to be baptized.

But now the people **believed** Philip's message of Good News ... As a result, many men and women were **baptized**.
Acts 8:12 (NLT)

[CHANGES THAT ARE PART OF THE PROCESS OF SALVATION.]

② EXAMPLE: A willingness to openly admit the truth.

⇒ About one's sins. Many who became **believers** confessed their sinful practices. Acts 19:18 (NLT)

⇒ About who Jesus is. If you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and **believe** in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. One **believes** with the heart, resulting in righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, resulting in salvation. Romans 10:9-10 (CSB)

("Confession" in the Bible is not a religious ritual.)

#3 Consequences ⇒ ⇒ Results in all the blessings of salvation.

★ THE RESULT OF FAITH THAT COMES TO MOST PEOPLE'S MIND IS "SALVATION" AND "ETERNAL LIFE." ★

For God loved the world in this way: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who **believes** in him will not perish but have eternal life.
John 3:16 (CSB)

"**Believe** in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household."
Acts 16:31b (CSB) (His whole family paid attention to the Good News.)

BUT THIS CAN ONLY HAPPEN WHEN THE FAITH IS GENUINE.

① **GOD IS INVOLVED** – which guarantees that it is genuine.

(God's love; his calling; the work of the Spirit.)

... loved by the Lord, ... God chose you to be saved through the sanctifying work of the Spirit and through belief in the truth.
2 Thes. 2:13b (NIV)

(God's undeserved kindness; his workmanship; it's all a gift.)

For by grace you are saved through faith, and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God; it is not from works, so that no one can boast. For we are his workmanship, having been created in Christ Jesus for good works that God prepared beforehand so we may do them.
Eph 2:8-10 (NET)

② **IT'S A LIVING FAITH.**

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③ **IT'S A FACT-BASED FAITH** – trusting God and what he says.

... God chose you to be saved ... through belief in the truth.
2 Thes. 2:13b (NIV)

...whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life ...
John 5:24b (NIV)

④ **IT IS A CONTINUING FAITH.**

But we are not those who draw back and are destroyed, but those who have faith and are saved.
Heb 10:39 (CSB)

About being brought back to God... ⇨

But you must continue to believe this truth and stand in it firmly. Don't drift away from the assurance you received when you heard the Good News.
Col. 1:23a (NLT)

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ETERNAL LIFE IS A PRESENT REALITY FOR THOSE WITH GENUINE FAITH.

The one who believes in the Son has eternal life, ...
John 3:36a (CSB)

... anyone who believes has eternal life.
John 6:47b (CSB)

BUT SOME ASPECTS OF SALVATION ARE YET A FUTURE EVENT.

We have it... but not in its fullness.

... our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed.
Romans 13:11b (NIV)

(Until then, God will protect us.)

[You] who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.
1 Peter 1:5 (NIV)

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Salvation and eternal life aren't the only results of faith.
MANY OTHER THINGS OCCUR WHEN GENUINE FAITH IS PRESENT!

★ **#1 – OUR RELATIONSHIP TO GOD CHANGES!** ★

WE ARE BORN INTO GOD'S FAMILY – WE ARE NOW HIS CHILDREN!

For in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God through faith.
Galatians (NET)

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, ...
1 Jn 5:1a (CSB)

But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God.
John 1:12 (NLT)

Two facts: (1) God adopts us into his family (Ephesians 1:5).
(2) We were originally part of the devil's family (John 8:44; 1 John 3:8).

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WE NOW HAVE ACCESS TO GOD! (Before, our sin was a barrier.)

In [Christ Jesus] and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.
Ephes. 3:12 (NIV)

... let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.
Hebrews 10:22 (NIV)

WE ARE LOVED BY THE FATHER! (= A special love that belongs only to the followers of Jesus.)

The Father loves you because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God.
John 16:27 (GW)

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WE ARE NOW UNITED WITH CHRIST. (See also: Romans 6:1-10.)

I pray that Christ will be more and more at home in your hearts as you trust in him.
Ephes. 3:17a (NLT)

For you were buried with Christ when you were baptized. And with him you were raised to a new life because you trusted the mighty power of God, who raised Christ from the dead.
Col. 2:12 (NLT)

OUR ATTITUDE TOWARD GOD/JESUS HAS CHANGED!

(We love Jesus and admit his relationship to the Father.)

... you have loved me and have believed that I came from God.
John 16:27 (GW)

(Trusting Jesus = trusting the Father.)

Jesus shouted to the crowds, "If you trust me, you are really trusting God who sent me."
John 12:44 (NLT)

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THE HOLY SPIRIT IS AT WORK IN OUR LIVES.

(Jesus said it would happen.) "The one who **believes** in me, as the Scripture has said, will have streams of living water flow from deep within him." He said this about the Spirit.
John 7:38-39a (CSB)

Having **believed**, you were marked in [Christ] with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession...
Ephes. 1:13b-14a (NIV)

(Available to all who believe the truth.) → (Both Jews and Gentiles who trust God – Acts 11:15,17; 15:8.)

Did you receive the Spirit ... by **believing** what you heard [about Christ]? [Answer: YES.]
Galatians 3:2b (GW)

★ The Spirit's presence will result in "fruit" – Galatians 5:22-23a. ★

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#2 – OUR RELATIONSHIP TO SIN CHANGES!

WE WILL NO LONGER PURSUE A LIFE OF SIN. (Instead, we will pursue righteousness and obedience ⇒ [a future topic].)

(Turning away from sin; being made holy.) [Paul's mission, given by Jesus =] "You will open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light and from Satan's control to God's. Then they will receive forgiveness for their sins and a share among God's people who are made holy by **believing** in me."
Acts 26:18 (GW)

(A cleansed heart.) He made no distinction between us and them, for he also cleansed their hearts through **faith**.
Acts 15:9 (NLT)

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WE HAVE RECONCILIATION (A RESTORED RELATIONSHIP) WITH GOD.

But now [God] has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation--if you continue in your **faith**, established and firm, not moved from the hope held out in the gospel.
Col. 1:22-23a (NIV)

The changes in our relationship to GOD are possible only because this change in our relationship to SIN has also occurred. **(WE CANNOT SERVE BOTH GOD AND SIN!)**

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WE ARE "JUSTIFIED" – DECLARED RIGHTEOUS, MADE RIGHT WITH GOD.

(NOT by our own attempts to get right with God!) So we are made right with God through **faith** and not by obeying the law.
Romans 3:28 (NLT)

And we have come to **believe** in Christ Jesus, so that we may be justified by the **faithfulness** of Christ and not by the works of the law, because by the works of the law no one will be justified.
Galatians 2:16b (NET)

(This is how we can have peace with God, etc.) Therefore, since we have been justified through **faith**, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ...
Romans 5:1 (NIV)

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OUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN. (Turning away from sin comes first.)

[Paul's mission, given by Jesus =] "You will open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light and from Satan's control to God's. Then they will receive forgiveness for their sins and a share among God's people who are made holy by **believing** in me."
Acts 26:18 (GW)

"All the prophets testify about [Jesus] that through his name everyone who **believes** in him receives forgiveness of sins."
Acts 10:43 (CSB)

THE END RESULT? WE ARE NOT CONDEMNED; WE WILL NOT PERISH.

For this is the way God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who **believes** in him will not perish but have eternal life. ... The one who **believes** in him is not condemned.
John 3:16, 18a (NET)

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SUMMARY

Results Of FAITH:

- ✓ Other parts of the "process of salvation."
- ✓ (in general) Salvation and eternal life.

SPECIFIC CONSEQUENCES:

- ✓ Changes in our relationship to God.
- ✓ Changes in our relationship to sin.
- ✓ [Further changes to be explored next time.]

Scripture says a lot more about these issues. We have only looked at a few verses that show a direct connection to faith/trust/believing.

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If we could summarize all these results in one word... that word would be:

CHANGE!

Because: **When genuine faith exists, we are no longer the same!**

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!
2 Cor. 5:17 (NIV)

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CHANGE!

Scripture says that certain **CHANGES** will occur when a **LIVING, FACT-BASED FAITH** exists.

So:

IF you *claim* to have a **LIVING, FACT-BASED FAITH ...**

THEN LOOK for its **EVIDENCE!**

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Your mission... ➔ SELF evaluation

Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves. Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you-- unless, of course, you fail the test?
2 Cor. 13:5 (NIV)

A **FACT-BASED FAITH WILL** ➔ LOOK for changes that *have* occurred...
And rejoice in what God has done!

A **LIVING FAITH WILL** ➔ LOOK for changes that *need to* occur...
And pursue those changes!

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Credits

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