



House of Faith: Defined
Sermon Discussion Questions – May 21, 2023

Scripture Passages:

Matthew 7:27 (NIV84) ²⁷ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.”

Matthew 7:24 (NIV84) ²⁴ “Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.

Hebrews 11:1 (NIV84) Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

Hebrews 10:39 (NIV84) ³⁹ But we are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed, but of those who believe and are saved.

Hebrews 11:6 (NIV84) ⁶ And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Ephesians 2:8–9 (NIV84) ⁸ For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— ⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast.

1 John 2:22–23 (NRSV) ²² Who is the liar but the one who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the antichrist, the one who denies the Father and the Son. ²³ No one who denies the Son has the Father; everyone who confesses the Son has the Father also.

Proverbs 15:29 (NIV84) ²⁹The Lord . . . hears the prayer of the righteous.

Psalms 37:23 (NRSV) ²³Our steps are made firm by the Lord, when he delights in our way;

Psalms 139:16 (NRSV) ¹⁶Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed.

John 11:25–26 (NRSV) ²⁵ Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?”

John 14:2–3 (NRSV) ² In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.

John 17:3 (NRSV) ³ And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

John 1:18 (NRSV) ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father’s heart, who has made him known.

Warm Up:

This week we begin a new series, “House of Faith.” Who in your life has been an example of faith to you?

Discussion:

1. What do you think of when you hear the word “faith”? What does it mean to you?
2. In our world today, where do you see people putting their faith?
3. Would you consider yourself a person of faith? Why or why not?

4. Read Matthew 7:24-27. What can we learn about building a life on faith from this passage?

5. Read the following Scriptures. What do they tell us about faith?

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Hebrews 10:39 (NIV84) ³⁹ But we are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed, but of those who believe and are saved.

Hebrews 11:6 (NIV84) ⁶ And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

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6. Pastor Tom stated that “Faith is dependent upon what can be known about God.” What do we know about God that we can be dependent on? Claim those as markers of your faith!

7. In Pastor Tom’s message, he gives us this statement about Jesus.

“If you will read the Bible and consider the claims of Jesus Christ, you will discover in Christ someone who compels belief—even against your will. Everything inside of you is saying, ‘I don’t want to believe this stuff. I don’t want my life taken over. I don’t want somebody in charge of me.’ I understand that. But when you come and lay your life open before Christ, and when you see him on the cross, and you understand that there he bore your sin and all your rebellion and all of your emptiness and lostness and brokenness, he will compel belief in you.”

Take some time this week to lay your life open before Christ so that He may compel belief in you. Use these questions to guide your time.

- Do you believe that Jesus is the Son of God?
- Do you believe Jesus died on the cross, taking the sins of the world on his shoulders so that all people could be saved if they believe?
- Do you believe Jesus was resurrected?

8. Do you need to claim this prayer of Salvation? If so, speak it to God, and find someone to share it with!

Lord Jesus, I love you, I know you are mine;
For you all the follies of sin, I resign;
My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art thou;
If ever I loved you, my Jesus, it's now.

Next Steps:

We can boldly approach the throne of God in prayer. Take a few moments this week and pray through each of these statements. Do you struggle to believe these statements are true? Are there any that you need to claim?

“O God, I know that you hear my prayers.” **Proverbs 15:29 (NIV84)**

“O God, and I know that you know my circumstances and that you mark my steps.”
Psalm 37:23 (NRSV)

“Every day of my life was written in your book before one of them came to be.” **Psalm 139:16 (NRSV)**

“O God, I know that when I die, I'll go to heaven, and I can see heaven in Jesus, and he has a place for me.” **John 11:25–26 (NRSV), John 14:2–3 (NRSV)**