



Fruit of the Spirit

(Galatians 5:22-23)

"FAITHFULNESS"

**"Firm in adherence to promises or in observance of duty."
(Merriam-Webster's Dictionary)**

- The word "faith" in the New Testament is translated from the Greek word "pistis" meaning 'conviction and belief with the predominate idea of trust.'
- The word for faith in the Old Testament is the Hebrew word "emunah" which is translated; fidelity (faithful), steadfastness and firmness. It involves truthfulness and honesty.

Start-up questions:

- ♦ Is having real honest faith always a good thing? (explain your answer)
- ♦ What are the consequences of having faith in something that is based on a lie of misbelief?
- ♦ Explain a time in your life that you had faith in something that later turned out to be a lie.
- ♦ How do we develop faith that is based on truth? (In John 18:38, Pilot asked "what is truth.")
- ♦ What is Truth? (John 14:6; Psalm 33:4)
- ♦ How can the demons believe and yet not be saved? (James 2:19)

Different kinds of "faith":

Dead faith (described in James 2:14,17)

Demonic faith (described in James 2:19)

Delivering faith - that which saves! (described in James 2:21-25)

Verses to consider:

- ▷ Hebrews 11:1 (God's definition of faith)
- ▷ Hebrews 11:6 (we cannot please God without faith)
- ▷ Hebrews 12:2 (Jesus is the Author and Perfector of our faith)
- ▷ James 2:14-19 (Faith is proven by our actions)
- ▷ John 14:1,15,21 (Faith in Jesus results in trust and obedience)
- ▷ Ephesians 2:8-9 (Faith is the source of our salvation and is a gift from God)
- ▷ Luke 18:40-43; Luke 17:19 (examples of faith as a source of healing)

Final questions to consider:

- ♦ What is the difference between "faith" (pistis) and "believe (pisteuo)?" Can we have one without the other?
- ♦ Do we ever do anything out of unbelief? Explain!

Key verse:

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