

TAKING WORSHIP INTO YOUR WEEK



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“**Keep the faith**” is a phrase you say to those who need not to give in to the changes and challenges they face; those who need the courage to go on. Keeping the faith in the midst of the struggles and anxieties of this past year is this: You have not given up on worship. You have grown in God’s Word. You have served and loved others. You have prayed for the Church, been a part of her vision, and expressed gratitude to God with your resources so that others might “keep the faith.” Let’s thank God for that and encourage those whose faith is struggling.

1. “Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.” -Heb. 11:1

Using your concordance, look up the words “confidence” and “assurance” and note examples which show these things don’t depend on you, but God who gives them.

2. “For we live by faith, not by sight. -2 Cor. 5:7

Find in the Word Peter’s profession of faith and what Jesus replies to him (hint, Jesus begins with the words, “Blessed are you. . . .”)

3. “For everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith.” -1 John 5:4

Find examples of the word “born” in the New Testament; who is the one responsible for the birth? Who, then, is the one responsible for the presence of faith in our lives, and the victory it brings?

4. “Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.” -1 Peter 1:8-9

Many times we don’t see something, but feel its influence. In the past week, what ways have you “seen” evidence of Jesus all around you, even though you don’t see him?

We pray: You, Lord Jesus, are “author and perfecter of our faith,” and we praise you for this gift, which you have given by your grace. You, Lord, with the Father and the Holy Spirit are one God, now and forever. Amen.