

**Faith Christian Fellowship**  
**January 29, 2017**  
**The Way of Faith**  
**1: Ur, leaving.**

**TEXT:** Romans 4:11-12, 16 AMP He received the mark of circumcision as a token or an evidence [and] seal of the righteousness which he had by faith while he was still uncircumcised--[faith] so that he was to be made the father of all who [truly] believe, though without circumcision, and who thus have righteousness (right standing with God) imputed to them and credited to their account, (12) As well as [that he be made] the father of those circumcised persons who are not merely circumcised, but also **walk in the way of that faith which our father Abraham had** before he was circumcised. (16) Therefore, [inheriting] **the promise is the outcome of faith and depends [entirely] on faith**, in order that it might be given as an act of grace (unmerited favor), **to make it stable and valid and guaranteed to all his descendants**--not only to the devotees and adherents of the Law, but also to those who share the faith of Abraham, who is [thus] the father of us all.

Hebrews 11:8-9

As the people of God, everything we have is extended to us by God's grace. The whole creation is a gift from Him, of which we have made a mess. The breath you draw is by His grace – if He was not gracious you would be toast. Lam 3:22 / Mal 3:6

The Lord spoke that we need to build our faith this year and gave some interesting instructions.

1) Faith has three basic components:

- a) **Heart content** - keep your heart / feed the heart / Matt 12:34 ... for whatever is in your heart determines what you say.
- b) **The Tongue** - out of the abundance / no man can tame it v.8 / two springs: James 3:2-15
- c) **Actions** – no dead faith = James 2:26
- d) We can exercise our will successfully in heart keeping and actions. The tongue eventually reveals the heart.. Have we spent too much energy trying to control the uncontrollable?

2) Our heritage of faith

- a) The FCF family: Azusa Street all the way to Tulsa, we have a great faith heritage.
- b) That heritage didn't begin with Kenneth Hagin. He just boiled it down and elucidated it for our day.
  - b.i) Faith comes from the Word. Rom 10:17

b.ii) Faith receives the promise before it sees the result. Mk 11:24

b.iii) Faith speaks. Mk 11:23

b.iv) Faith acts. James 2:17

- c) In many instances, we have emphasized the speaking aspect almost to the exclusion of the rest.
- d) Our heritage of faith began with faithful Abram in a place called Ur of the Chaldees about 4 thousand years ago. Acts 7:2-4 / Gen 11:27-32 He was 75 when they headed out of Haran. No kids
- e) From Genesis 12 all the way to Genesis 25 we see a story of growing faith 1-5 The promise of descendants to a man with a barren wife.
- f) We are the seed of Abraham/ We live in the faith of faithful Abraham. Galatians 3:9 Lessons to be learned:

3) Leave your idols behind

- a) Hebrews 11:8-9 It was **by faith that Abraham obeyed**. Genesis 12:1-7 / Acts 7:2-4 /
- b) Abraham was raised in very upscale surroundings in a culture that exalted pagan deities.
  - b.i) Ur of the Chaldees was in modern Iraq, ancient Babylon. Very prosperous, but given to idolatry. Ziggurats and indoor toilets
  - b.ii) Haran: A trade center on the main caravan route Also a hotbed of moon worship
- c) Canaan was not a destination city. A desert full of tents and hostile tribes. Abraham headed there sight unseen
- d) The beginnings of faith: Lay aside culture, custom, and idolatry
  - d.i) Gods come in all shapes. It's a heart issue. James 4:4 / 1 John 2:15-17 / Philippians 3:18-19
  - d.ii) It is impossible to serve two masters. Matt 6:24
  - d.iii) Your God is who you follow when the choice is difficult. Mk 10:17-22.

**What keeps you from following Him?**

**Time to leave it.**

**Faith obeys.**

