UNDERSTANDING THE PRINCIPLES OF FAITH:

I. We must learn **HOW TO WALK BY FAITH:**

A. 2 Cor 5:7  *For we walk by faith, not by sight.*

1. Our natural tendency is to walk by our **five senses:**
   a. taste, smell, touch, hearing, seeing

2. But we must remember that when we have become Born Again
   We are not to have our life dominated by our physical body, and
   It’s senses
   a. Rather: our inner man, our spirit man is to be in control
      (1) bringing our **soul**: mind, will, intellect, emotions
      (a) this comes thru having a **renewed mind**, through an intense
          Study of the scriptures:
          (1) Rom 12:2  *And do not be conformed to this world, but be*
              transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you
              may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect
              will of God.
          (2) Eph 4:23  *And be constantly renewed in the spirit of your mind*
              [having a fresh mental and spiritual attitude] AMP
      (2) bringing our **physical body** under the discipline
          (A) Gal 5:24  *And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with*
              its passions and desires.
          25  *If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.*

B. **Things we must learn to walk through**, if we are going to Walk by Faith:

1. Isa 43:1  "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your
   name; You are Mine.
   when you pass through the waters, I will be with you; And
   through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk
   through the fire, you shall not be burned, Nor shall the flame
   scorch you.

2. Dan 6:20  And when he came to the den, he cried out with a lamenting
   voice to Daniel. The king spoke, saying to Daniel, "Daniel,
   servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve
   continually, been able to deliver you from the lions?"
21 Then Daniel said to the king, "O king, live forever!
22 My God sent His angel and shut the lions' mouths, so that they have not hurt me,

a. **Note: When you pass through** … **not if**
b. Many mistakenly think that their faith will enable them to avoid difficulties in life……that is not always true
   (1) Walking by faith also means walking thru:
      (a) rivers / flood of the enemy & yet not drown
      (b) flames & fiery darts the devil throws at you & not be burned
   (1) that is why it is important for us to walk by faith & not by sight
      Which enables us not to be moved by what we see / circumstances
   (2) and walk according to the promises of the Word of God

3. **Faith is not precious / have value until it has been tested**
   a. 1 Peter 1:7 That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, (extremely valuable) though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:

4. Ps 23:4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You are with me;
   a. The valley of the shadow of death…is a valley you will pass through many times in life
   b. and we must do **four things** when walking by faith through when walking thru the Shadow of the Valley of Death:
      valley:
      (1) First: “**Fear Not**”
         (a) key: knowing by faith that You / God is with me
         (b) Rom 8:31 What then shall we say to these things? (including the valley of the SHADOW OF DEATH),,,, If God is for us, who can be against us?
      (2) SECONDLY: **You need to learn to invite the devil out to lunch**
         (a) Ps 23:5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over.
            (1) Get in the word / eat / fill up on the promises of God
            (2) and then force feed the devil The Word of God by speaking the
(3) Third: Stay in the presence of God & receive a fresh anointing:

(a) Ps 23:5 You anoint my head with oil
(1) If you will set at the table God sets for you in the midst of the Valley of the Shadow of Death: Praise will fill your heart & mouth
(a) Ps 22:3 But thou art holy, O thou that inhabitest the praises of Israel.
(1) when God’s presence manifests you can receive a fresh anointing
(2) Ps 23:5 and your “cup runs over”
(1) filled with the wine of the Holy Spirit
(2) drinking in a fresh anointing till it overflows & pours out of you
(b) Then in the midst of the Valley of The Shadow of Death, while you are sitting at the table The Lord has prepared for you
(1) feeding on His word
(2) Drinking in the oil / wine / anointing of the Holy Spirit:
(a) Isa 10:27 It shall come to pass in that day That his burden will be taken away from your shoulder, And his yoke from your neck, And the yoke will be destroyed because of the anointing oil.

(4) Fourth: Ps 23:6 And I will dwell in the house of the Lord Forever.

(a) Let me make a bold statement: if you are not in The House of The Lord / you are not walking by faith
(1) no trial, no battle, no temptation, no offense / no disappointment
No devil / no circumstance…..should keep you out of the House of The Lord

C. If we are going to walk by faith and understand the Principles of Faith We must rearrange our priorities in life to the same standard Jesus operated by:

1. Luke 2:49 Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?" NKJV
Luke 2:49 knew ye not that I must be in my Father's house? ASV
Luke 2:49 Did you not see and know that it is necessary [as a duty] For Me to be in My Father's house and [occupied]
About My Father's business? AMP
2. **Priority of Jesus**: “I must be about My Father’s business”
   a. Note how Jesus puts The Heavenly Father’s business and Father’s House / The House of God / temple / Local Church as one and the same
   b. Until we have godly priorities / or the same priorities Jesus has & had we cannot understand / nor operate in the fullness of the Principles of faith
      (1) faith cannot work with Jesus & the House of God being second in Line of our life priorities
      (2) God will not move on our behalf & we cannot tap into the anointing of the House of God until The Lord and His House / Local church are moved to the front of the line in our life’s priorities

3. We also see The House of God at the top of Our Lord’s priority list in:
   a. Luke 4:16 And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom (habit) was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read.
   b. John 2:17 Then His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for Your house has eaten Me up."

4. Jesus also gave us a divine revelation of life’s priorities & how to Keep The Blessing of God & the heavens open in our life in:
   a. Matt 6:33 But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness
      (1) This verse reveals the soil of where faith grows
         This verse reveals the environment of where faith can operate
         (a) #1 Seeking the Kingdom of God first / be about our Heavenly Father’s business / House
         (b) #2 Seeking Righteousness first / living right

5. Look at the priorities of Jesus one more time:
   a. Luke 4:16 So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom (Def HABIT) was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read.
      (1) How is your church habit?

6. I get amazed when I hear people claiming to have faith……yet they Have Not developed faithfulness to The House of God
1. I get amazed when people talk about their ministries & what they are looking for God to do through their ministry….yet they have not developed faithfulness to the House of God

2. I get amazed when I hear talk about what they are believing God to do on their behalf…yet they have not developed faithfulness to the House of God

3. I get amazed when I hear Christians speaking of the great things that they are wanting to see God do in and thru their life
   a. yet their priorities have their hobby, friends, family, careers ahead of God and His House in their priorities in life
   (1) Not understanding that God holds Christians to a higher standard…..Not a lower one
   (a) Luke 12:48 For unto whosoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more.

(1) DWELL

II. In order to walk by faith, we must **CONQUER OUR FEARS**:

A. 2 Tim 1:7 For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.
   1. **Fear** is the nature of the kingdom of darkness
   2. The nature of the Kingdom of God is:
      a. **Power**; dunamis / miraculous power
      b. **love**; agape / divine love
      c. **sound mind**; discipline / self control

B. Faith is not filled with Fear / Rather: it is filled with **COURAGE**
   1. Josh 1:7 Only be strong and **very courageous**, that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may prosper wherever you go.
   8 This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.
9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of **good courage**; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

a. In order for Joshua to prosper he had to:
   (1) have courage
      (a) **Note how courage comes**
      (1) vs 8 “Book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth” / speak The Word
      (2) vs 8 “meditate on it (word / promises of God) day and night

2. Courage will enable you to act on your faith
   a. Courage will enable you to step out of the boat & walk on the water
      (1) Faith is more than a confession
      (2) Faith has the courage to step out on & put into action what God has spoke to your heart

3. James put it this way:
   a. James 2:17 Thus also **faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.**
   18 But someone will say, "You have faith, and I have [works]."
      Show me your faith without your works, and **I will show you my faith by my works.**
   19 You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe — and tremble!
   20 But do you want to know, O foolish man, that **faith** without works is dead?

(1) **FAITH MUST BE COMBINED WITH ACTION**

III. The key to how **faith is wrapped in the Fruit of The Holy Spirit:**
A. Gal 5:22  But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, 
kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 
23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.

B. Gal 5:6  “but faith which worketh by love.”
1. Faith works by AGAPE LOVE
2. When you are putting your faith to work
   a. you will love the people your faith is ministering to
3. Example:
   a. Jesus believed The Heavenly Father led Him to lay down His life on 
      Calvary’s cross
   b. and at the same time Jesus loved the sinner He died for on Calvary’s 
      cross
4. When we are putting your faith to work:
   a. We will love The Lord, Who’s word we are obeying
      (1) You come to church out of love not duty
      (2) you worship out of love, not tradition 
      (3) you tithe because you Love God
      (4) you put your gifts and talents to work, because you love God
5. When biblical faith is in operation,
   a. It is filled with the fruit of the Holy Spirit called: LOVE

C. When walking by faith, you produce the Fruit of Faithfulness:
1. Fruit of the Spirit Gal 5:22 Faith / faithfulness
   a. in other words you become reliable, dependable, consistent
      (1) in your walk with God 
      (2) in your ministry 
      (3) in your responsibilities in life / work / the Kingdom of God / church
2. Faithful people walk by faith and not their:
   a. mood & feelings
   b. circumstance
   c. offenses
   d. likes / or dislikes
   c. Rather because they are walking by faith they become faithful
      (1) in all seasons of life & ministry
3. Key: if you would just learn to be faithful and show up
   a. God who is faithful will always show up and manifest on your behalf