

## Power points for faith:#2 Faith Eph 2.1-10

**Title / intro:** New series - power points for faith - re: sharing good news - what is it, how do we live it, how do we share it?

Started at very beginning.... Jesus. How to become a Christian? 'believe in Jesus' - what does that mean?

Key to eternal life is called saving faith: show a **set of keys**.

- Faith is the key that opens the door of heaven.
- Man can be saved through faith.
- Man can be lost through faith in his good work - Eph 2.8-9 not earn or deserve
- Remind him that only one key will open the door to your house.
- Only one kind of faith will open the door to heaven- saving faith.
- This is important since some people have a false concept of saving faith.

What saving faith is not - what are the other keys that look similar but don't help us?

Mere **intellect assent**.

Many people believe in God's existence and maybe even Jesus in this way - a historical figure, theological construct, as we saw last week, that is not an option that Jesus left open for us - he is either a liar, a lunatic or Lord, and if he is Lord then just having thoughts about that is not going to achieve anything.

The word "mere" is important because it shows that we do need to agree intellectually to the facts of the gospel; but that in itself is not enough. The devil believes in God's existence and even trembles, but he won't go to heaven.

"You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that, and shudder." James 2:19 some sort of reaction, but not saving faith!

Mere **'here and now'** faith.

By "here and now faith" we mean trusting God in the temporary crises of this life.

Sickness /surgery – healing faith.

Money problems – financial faith.

Flying or driving dangers – travelling faith.

Big decisions – deciding faith.

These all have one thing in common – they are temporal.

This kind of faith is good, but it must be understood that it can save no one. The **Jesus chair** - put things on it, but not give myself.

What it is? - **Trusting in Jesus Christ alone for eternal life.**

Three elements of saving faith.

a. knowledge - the intellectual element.

b. Assent – agreeing with the facts.

c. Trust – relying or depending.

cp a wedding - knowing / loving / committing is what makes the change

“Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved.” Acts 16:31

### **The Lifeboat**

trusting in ourselves or things - letting go and trusting in Jesus alone

Jesus is the Son of God, he came and died in my place, paying the penalty for my sin, having accomplished that he was buried and on the third day rose from the dead, showing that the work was accepted by the Father, and offering forgiveness and life to us as a gift - paid for by him.

Motive for Godly Living (Eph. 2:8-10)

a. Not trying to earn eternal life through good works.

b. But doing them out of gratitude for eternal life.

So how do we transfer our trust from ourselves, and what we have been doing to save ourselves, to Jesus Christ and what He has already done on the cross.

Simplicity - **offered** pen, receive it - thank you

If I promise it, but you haven't seen it, what response? still thank you, is actually the act of receiving, it becomes yours.

§ This illustrates the act of receiving, by faith, the gift of eternal life.

§ Faith is the hand of a beggar reaching out to accept the gift of a king.

1 John 5.11-13 this is the testimony, life in the Son.