

“FAITHFULNESS”

Series: Nurturing Our Walk in the Spirit

Tony Thornton, Minister

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“His master replied, ‘Well done, good and **faithful servant!** You have been **faithful** with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’” Matthew 24:21

I suspect all Christ-followers want to hear Jesus say to them:

“Well done, good & faithful servant”

The problem: _____!!!

What is Faithfulness?

“There are two connected elements in the word ‘faithfulness’. On the one hand, being faithful means being *trustworthy and dependable*. A faithful person is a person of honesty and integrity, someone you can rely on. Faithful people keep their word. They do what they promise. They can be trusted not to cheat or deceive.

On the other hand, being faithful means exercising that kind of trustworthy behavior *over a long period of time*. Faithful people have proved that they can be trusted for the long haul. You don’t have to check up on them. You don’t have to worry that, even if they did a good job last week, they might let you down this week. No, faithful people show that they are routinely dependable in all kinds of ways and all kinds of circumstances. Faithfulness is the character of *somebody you know you can simply rely on all the time*.” Christopher Wright, Cultivating the Fruit of the Spirit

We can see Faithfulness modeled brilliantly by _____

“Sing joyfully to the LORD, you righteous; it is fitting for the upright to praise him. ² Praise the LORD with the harp; make music to him on the ten-stringed lyre. ³ Sing to him a new song; play skillfully, and shout for joy.

⁴ For the word of the LORD is right and true; **he is faithful in all he does.** ⁵ The LORD loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of his unfailing love.” Psalm 33:1-5

“Because of the LORD’s great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. ²³ They are new every morning; **great is your faithfulness.** ²⁴ I say to myself, “**The LORD is my portion; therefore I will wait for him.**” Lamentations 3:22-24

Our Faithfulness will be tested in many ways that revolve around one issue: Who’s _____ am I?

“Now fear the LORD and serve him with all faithfulness. Throw away the gods your ancestors worshiped beyond the Euphrates River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. ¹⁵ But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. **But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.**” Joshua 24:14-15

Jesus: “No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. **You cannot serve both God and money (mammon).**” Matthew 6:24

Jesus: “Then he said to them all: “Whoever wants to be my disciple **must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.**” Luke 9:23

Conclusion: Are you a Faithful Servant of Jesus?

- Are you a Trustworthy, Dependable and Focused on your Identity as a Servant of the King?
- Are you committed for the long haul?