**“Increase our faith”**

*Luke 17:1-10*

**Introduction**

1. Jesus instructs His disciples to forgive a brother who wrongs them.
2. This was obviously something the disciples thought was profound, and hard to accomplish.
3. They pleaded with the Lord to *“Increase our faith.”*
4. Jesus responded with a parable that described what faith was.
5. They did not need an increase of faith. They simply needed to do what the Lord commanded them.
6. This is the essence of faith. Trusting God, and doing what He says.
7. How are we to increase our faith?
8. Study (cf. Romans 10:17).
* 1 Corinthians 10:5-11
	+ God was not pleased with most of the Israelites because of their lack of faith (cf. Hebrews 3:18-19).
	+ We can be more faithful than they if we learn from their mistakes written for our learning.
* 2 Timothy 3:16-17
	+ Most want a miraculous, unheard of, thing to experience to increase their faith.
	+ God says the scripture is sufficient.
		- Luke 16:27-31 – Rich man wanted to impress them with sending Lazarus to them from the dead…
* Philippians 4:13; Galatians 2:20
	+ Our strength to do the things commanded us come from Christ.
	+ We have His strength, and He dwells in us through the word (cf. Colossians 3:16-17).
1. Pray (cf. Mark 9:24).
* James 5:16
	+ Prayer is a display of faith. We recognize nothing can be accomplished by ourselves, so we appeal to God for His aid.
	+ We need to ask those things that are according to His will – 1 John 5:14
* James 1:5-6
	+ God will not requires something from us that we cannot accomplish.
	+ He will provide us with the things needed to fulfill His commands. We must continually ask for His guidance in life.
1. Do (cf. Hebrews 11:6).
* James 2:14-17,21,25
	+ Faith is a work. It is doing as God commands. (cf. John 6:38-39).
* Ephesians 2:8-10; Matthew 7:21-27
	+ Faith is doing as God commands. Only the faithful will make it to heaven.