

This is COTR PART 4

Romans 1:17 AMPC _____

MAIN TAKEAWAY

Church on the Rock is a place where your faith can grow. It is a place where you can learn what faith is, how it grows, how to release our faith and get answers to our prayers. In James we see that we are to ask in faith without wavering, which is why we need to learn what faith is, how it comes, and how to grow and develop our faith.

Big idea: Our faith should never stop growing.

Bible definition of faith:

- a. Recognizing Jesus as the son of God. Being totally committed and trusting in Jesus.
- b. Putting happy trust in Jesus.
- c. You align your life with the Word of God.

Through and by faith you become a victor and an overcomer. You need to **make the decision to be determined to develop and grow your faith.**

KEY SCRIPTURES & TAKEAWAYS

2. **1 John 5:4 KJV** For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.
 - a. If we are born again, we are supposed to overcome.
 - b. We overcome loneliness, fear, anxiety, lack, insecurities, our past by knowing what faith is, how it works, how it comes and how to release it.
3. **Romans 1:17 AMPC** For in the Gospel a righteousness which God ascribes is revealed, both springing from faith and leading to faith [disclosed through the way of faith that arouses to more faith]. As it is written, The man who through faith is just *and* upright shall live *and* shall live by faith.
 - a. There are different levels of faith and what God can do is according to our faith.
 - b. A lack of faith puts limitations on what God wants to do, but if I have growing faith, it removes the limitations from what God can and wants to do in our lives.

There are levels to faith:

1. **Mark 4:40 KJV** And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith?
 - a. **No faith**
2. **Matthew 8:26 KJV** And he saith unto them, Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith? Then he arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm.
 - a. **Little faith**
3. **Romans 4:19 KJV** And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sarah's womb:
 - a. **Weak faith:** every day I need to make sure that I'm feeding my faith and doubting my doubts to not be weak in faith.
4. **Romans 4:20 KJV** He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God;
 - a. **Strong faith:** is built intentionally, making it a priority by reading the Word every day.
5. **Matthew 8:10 KJV** When Jesus heard it, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel.
 - a. **Great faith:** is built on believing the Word of God in spite of your circumstances, how you feel, the obstacles in your way or disappointments. We stand on the Word.

How does faith come?

1. **Romans 10:17 KJV** So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.
 - a. Faith comes by hearing the Good News and when we speak the Word of God out loud, we stop wandering with our thoughts.
 - b. It is present tense; we are to continually be hearing the Word and keep going back to it.

How does faith work?

2. The cycle of faith:
 - a. **Faith hears:** If you're having a hard time believing God, start hearing the Word on your needs today.
 - b. **Faith speaks:** If faith doesn't move your mouth, it won't move your mountain. This is the first corresponding action of faith.

- c. **Faith acts:** *We must act like it's so when it ain't so it can become so.* We envision and act like it's happened before it actually happens.
- d. **Faith rejoices:** Joy is the fuse to your faith. Act how you would act if it already happened.
- e. **Faith stands:** There is a time between praying and receiving. Do not give up in delay or discouragement but fight the good fight of faith and worship through it.
- f. **Faith receives:** If you don't waver but constantly grow your faith, you are on the right track, for the best is yet to come.

REFLECT & REVISIT

Go back and read **Romans 1:17**. Reflect on how God wants us to live and live abundantly. We are called to live **from faith to faith**, continually increasing and developing our trust in Him. This week, identify where your faith was stretched and make a decision to feed it intentionally through the Word of God. Refuse to allow fear, doubt, or circumstances to limit what God wants to do. Choose to **hear** the Word, **speak** the Word, **act** on the Word, **rejoice**, **stand** strong and wait until it is time to **receive** what God has for you.