

## THE IMPORTANCE OF CHOOSING FAITH

Now faith brings our hopes into reality and becomes the foundation needed to acquire the things we long for. It is all the evidence required to prove what is still unseen. This testimony of faith is what previous generations were commended for. Faith empowers us to see that the universe was created and beautifully coordinated by the power of God's words! He spoke and the invisible realm gave birth to all that is seen. 99

## Hebrews 11:1-3 TPT

Do you remember reading Genesis 1 and how God spoke creation into existence with the words, "Let there be"?

Read Genesis 1:3,6 & 14, emphasizing the words "let there be" (or the words like these in the translation you are reading), from a Bible designed for kids or an easy-to-understand translation. Make sure everyone is reading from the same translation, so it is easier to follow along. If you do not have the same Bible translation as your children, consider using a Bible app on a digital device which allows you to view Scripture in the same translation as your children's Bibles.

Throughout history, God has continued to speak words similar to "let there be" over the lives of His people by the promises He gave them. We are going to read several of these stories throughout this devotional book.

God loves to make promises to His people to reveal the things He wants to do in our lives, and He desires to see our hearts believe Him and the promises He makes to us.

This belief is called *faith*. Faith is our belief that God is trustworthy, and that He is powerful enough to make the promises He gives to us – happen.

Many times, God's promises seem impossible. This is the reason that choosing faith, choosing to believe God, even when what He promises seems completely impossible – this is the reason that choosing faith is so important. Choosing faith – choosing to believe God is good, that He is trustworthy, and that He is powerful enough to make the promises He gives to us happen – this response touches the Heart of God so much that He delights in our belief in Him!

Hebrews 11:6 says, "And without faith living within us it would be impossible to please God. For we come to God in faith knowing that he is real and that he rewards the faith of those who give all their passion and strength into seeking him." (TPT – italics mine for emphasis)

Faith is believing Him when He speaks a "Let there be" creative promise into our lives, and it is our *belief* in Him that will bring His promise into reality.

Hebrews 11:1 says, "(Faith) is all the evidence required to prove what is still unseen." (TPT)

When something needs to be proven, evidence is required to demonstrate proof. For example, if someone is lying about something, we need evidence to prove they are lying, right?

In the supernatural, faith – believing God's words to us – is actually the evidence God is looking for, so He can do His creative work and make His promises happen!

There is a Bible passage in the Book of Matthew that proves that God is looking for His people to have faith, so that He can move in miracle-working power.

Read Matthew 13:53-58 and underline or highlight verse 58.

The people of Jesus' hometown in Nazareth struggled to believe that the Person they had known since His childhood could possibly be the Messiah. They chose to rely on their own limited understanding – which, in this case, was their false belief that Joseph was Jesus' biological father. The people of Nazareth could have made a different choice. They could have asked more questions of Mary to uncover the truth of Jesus' miraculous birth. If they would have chosen to ask questions, they could have then discovered that God was Jesus' real Father, and Joseph simply adopted Him. If they would have chosen to ask questions with a humble and open heart, the discovery of truth would have then opened the path to choosing faith.

So, from this story, we learn that to open the path of believing in faith, sometimes it will be important to ask questions. Ask God to help you understand more. Tell Him that you desire to have faith in what He says to you, but you need Him to explain more of His Truth to you.

Read Matthew 7:7-8 and underline or highlight these verses

By asking for more of His Wisdom, this is an act of faith! You are choosing to believe that God is a Good God who wants to help you understand more about Him and His Ways. He will absolutely help you!

Read Mark 11:22-24 and underline or highlight verses 22-24

**NOTE TO PARENTS:** If you have the Scribbles & Scribes Bible & Quiet Time Journal For Kids: Ancient Trees, consider if you would like your children to do the journal pages for The Importance of Choosing Faith now, or if you will have them complete it at a later time.

Personally, my purpose for the Bible & Quiet Time Journal was to help my children develop a daily independent quiet time each morning. So, I chose to read the devotional to them during a Family Devotional time in the late afternoon or early evening, and then they would complete the Bible & Quiet Time Journal independently the following morning.

Again, how your family utilizes these tools is completely up to you. You can decide how to do this based upon your family's unique needs and schedule.

When you are ready to introduce your children to the Bible & Quiet Time Journal, see the next page to give them some instruction for how the Bible & Quiet Time Journal works.

**Note:** If your family enjoyed the first devotional and journal in the Scribbles & Scribes series, please note that the format for this journal combines the two formats used in the Tree By The Stream journal (see the next page for details).