

Faith on Trial
Or
Living Expectantly, When We Don't Know What to Expect

How can I and what will it take?

All through life's journey it seems we have to wait for someone or something. While we wait we do so expectantly, and we wait in faith, but that doesn't mean we are to wait passively. Nor does it mean that we know what to expect as we wait.

It is all a matter of faith!!! Faith is the major key when it comes to expectant living. Romans 1:17 reminds us "But the righteous man shall live by faith."

Thought: It has been said, If you pray for rain, be sure to carry an umbrella.

I. Key passages about faith

Hebrews 11:6 Faith is necessary if we are to please God.
Matthew. 9:29 Faith activates God.

Thought: A tested and developed faith leads to a strong and expecting Christian life.

II. How God tests our faith

A. He tests our faith through unexpected difficulties. I Peter 1:6,7

Thought: If we are looking for meaning in life, it may be in the troubles God is allowing to come our way.

B. Through unexpected demands or commands

Some of these test our faith. For example it will test our faith when:

- We are commanded to esteem others higher than
- ourselves Philippians 2:3
- We are commanded to forgive others Colossians 3:13
- We are commanded to do good to our enemies Luke. 6:27

- We are commanded to serve, not be served Galatians 5:13

C. Through unexpected delays

Our plan is have God do what we want, when we want and how we want.

God's plan is, we may get unexpected delays. But they are for our good. Romans 8:24,25 Isaiah 64:4

D. He might test our faith through unexpected gifts of money
If He can't trust me with money, how can he trust me with the things that will live forever?

When your faith is tested through the unexpected things involving difficulties, demands, delays and dollars expect God to come through every time, and expect yourself to ultimately benefit from it.

Final thoughts: Well dear friend there are a lot of unexpected things in life, things like death when we least expect it. "There is nothing more certain than death, nothing more uncertain than the time of dying." — Warwick

With this one however, it is not to test our faith but it will prove if we had our faith in the right place and in the right person. To be ready for that moment before it is too late think about and follow the way laid out below.

Realize you are a sinner Rom. 3:23

Understand that the payday for sin is death or eternal conscious separation from God. Rom. 6:23a

Know that there is a way of escape for you. Rom. 6:23b and Jn. 1:12

Desire to escape and pray this or a similar prayer.

"Dear God, I know I am a sinner. I am truly sorry for my sins, and I confess them all to You [name them). Lord Jesus, forgive all my sins and come into my heart as my Saviour and Lord. I receive You right now. Help me from this time forward to live for You. Thank You for hearing and answering my prayer. In Jesus' name. Amen."

On the _____ day of _____ I became a Christian by inviting Jesus Christ into my life to forgive my sin.

Signed: _____

If you have further questions or have chosen to do this, be sure to let us know so we can help you, pray for you and encourage you in your new life.

You can reach us at lapeerchurch@gmail.com Subject line: (Salvation)