

Living Above the Fray

Sincere Faith

2 Timothy 1:1-5

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Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, according to the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

²To Timothy, my dear son:

Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

Introductions

- Paul
 - Place of writing
 - Occasion
 - Position
- Timothy
 - Relationship to Paul
 - Role in the church

³ I thank God, whom I serve, as my forefathers did, with a clear conscience, as night and day I constantly remember you in my prayers. ⁴ Recalling your tears, I long to see you, so that I may be filled with joy. ⁵ I have been reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also.

Sincere

an - hupocritos

-pertaining to being genuine and sincere,
and hence lacking in pretense or show—
'genuine, sincere.'

Louw, J. P., & Nida, E. A. (1996). Greek-English lexicon of the New Testament: based on semantic domains (electronic ed. of the 2nd edition., Vol. 1, p. 674). New York: United Bible Societies.

What's the big deal?

²¹ “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. ²² Many will say to me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?’ ²³ Then I will tell them plainly, ‘I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!’

Matthew 7:21–23

What is Faith

1a : allegiance to duty or a person : LOYALTY

b (1) : fidelity to one's promises

(2) : sincerity of intentions

2a (1) : belief and trust in and loyalty to God

(2) : belief in the traditional doctrines of a religion

b (1) : firm belief in something for which there is no proof

(2) : complete trust

Webster

What is Faith

The main elements in faith in its relation to the invisible God, as distinct from faith in man, are especially brought out in the use of this noun and the corresponding verb, *pisteuō*; they are **(1)** a firm conviction, producing a full acknowledgement of God's revelation or truth, e.g., 2Thess. 2:11, 12; **(2)** a personal surrender to Him, John 1:12; **(3)** a conduct inspired by such surrender, 2 Cor. 5:7.

THE PERFECT MIXTURE

Firm conviction

Intellect - mind

Intellect Alone?



THE PERFECT MIXTURE

Firm conviction

Intellect - mind

Personal surrender

Emotion – heart

Intellect +/- Will



THE PERFECT MIXTURE

Firm conviction

Intellect - mind

Personal surrender

Emotion – heart

Conduct

Will - volition

Intellect & Will - Emotion



Faith

Prominence is given to one or other of these elements according to the context.

Vine, W. E., & Bruce, F. F. (1981). *Vines Expository dictionary of Old and New Testament words* (Vol. 2, p. 71). Old Tappan NJ: Revell.

Faith

Prominence is given to one or other of these elements according to the context. All this stands in contrast to belief in its purely natural exercise, which consists of an opinion held in good faith without necessary reference to its proof.

Vine, W. E., & Bruce, F. F. (1981). Vines Expository dictionary of Old and New Testament words (Vol. 2, p. 71). Old Tappan NJ: Revell.

To Go . . .

1. How does Paul's perspective on the meaning of "faith" differ from the way that our culture views it?
2. How important is your faith to your daily life?
3. How does your faith influence your family?