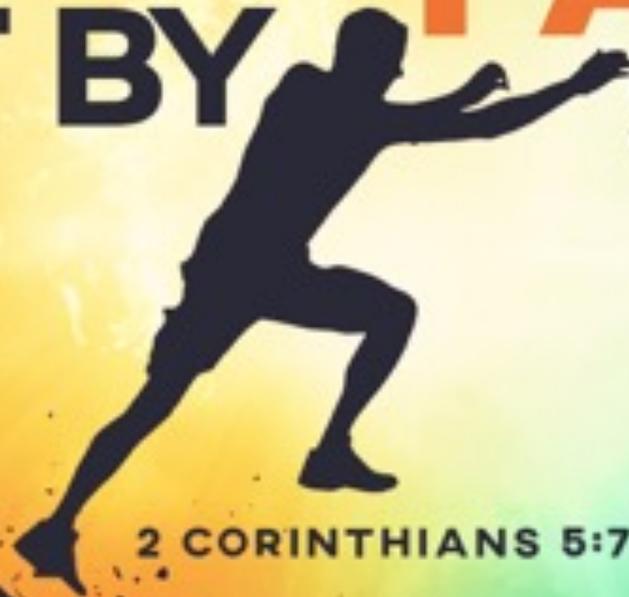


**LIVE BY FAITH**  
**NOT BY SIGHT**



**2 CORINTHIANS 5:7**

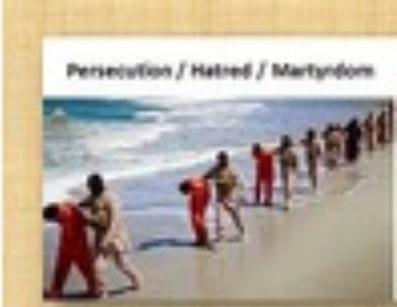


### Worst Year Yet: The Top 50 Countries Where It's Hardest to Be a Christian

For the first time in a year, the highest percentage of Christians worldwide faced persecution.

For the primary reason, Islamic extremism, and for a secondary one, violence.

There is also a marked north-south divide throughout the Middle East, according to the 2017 World Watch survey of 200 countries by Christianity Today.



**IN THE LAST DAYS  
DIFFICULT TIMES WILL COME  
– 2 TIMOTHY 3**



### Magnitude 6.5 earthquake

From New Guinea, Lae, Philippines, 6.5 (M 6.5)

View on earthquake.usgs.gov

Recent earthquakes



### Magnitude 6.5 earthquake

From New Guinea, Lae, Philippines, 6.5 (M 6.5)

View on earthquake.usgs.gov

Recent earthquakes

M 5.9 18 mi from Davao, South Philippines	M 5.5 27 mi from Subayan, East Cebu Province, Philippines
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### Famine 'largest humanitarian crisis in history of UN'

UN humanitarian chief says 20 million people in Yemen, South Sudan, Somalia and Nigeria face starvation and famine.



**Jesus answered: “Watch out that no one deceives you. For many will come in my name, claiming, ‘I am the Messiah,’ and will deceive many. You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of birth pains (Mt 24:4-8 NIV).**

**“Then you will be handed over to be persecuted and put to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of me. At that time many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other, and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people. Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved. And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come (Mt 24:9-14 NIV).**

**But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. (2 Tim 3:14-15 NIV).**



# **THE MOST IMPORTANT CHRISTIAN CONCEPT**

**FOR WE LIVE  
BY FAITH, NOT BY SIGHT.**

**2 CORINTHIANS 5:7**

# THE MOST IMPORTANT CHRISTIAN CONCEPT

- But my righteous one shall **live by faith** and if he shrinks back, my soul has no pleasure in him.  
– **Heb. 10:38.**
- For indeed we have had good news preached to us, just as they also, but the word that they heard did not profit them, because it was not united **by faith** in those who heard – **Heb. 4:2**
- And without **faith** it is impossible to please Him...  
**Heb. 11:6**
- And whatever is not of **faith** is sin... **Rom. 14:23b**

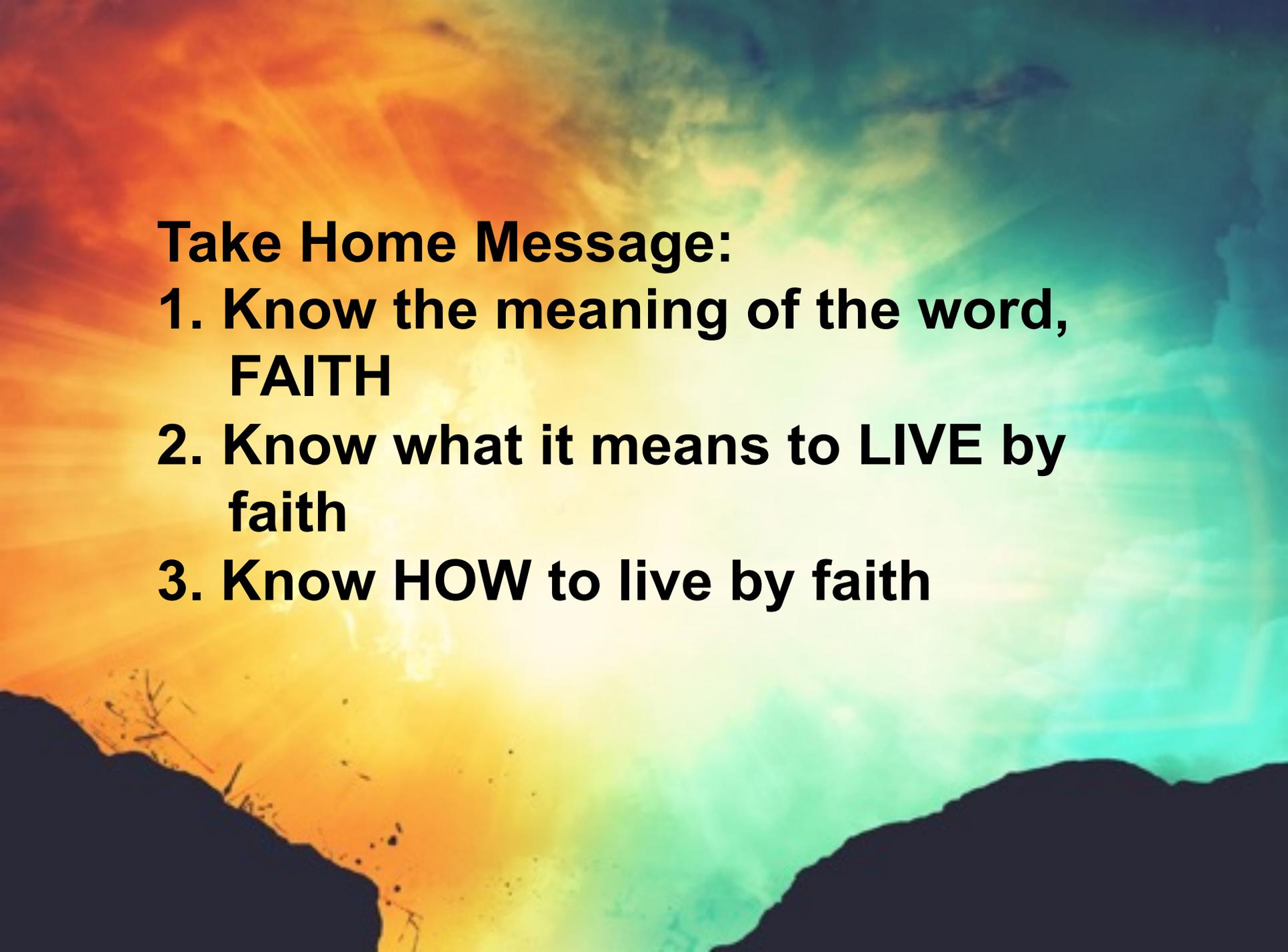
# WHAT DOES IT REALLY MEAN TO LIVE BY FAITH?

Heb 11:1 - Now faith is the assurance of *things* hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Heb 11:2 - For by it the men of old gained approval.

Living by faith means to continually live life depending on the reality of:

- \* Who GOD is &
- \* What He says He will do



**Take Home Message:**

- 1. Know the meaning of the word,  
FAITH**
- 2. Know what it means to LIVE by  
faith**
- 3. Know HOW to live by faith**

## **Its Biblical definition - FAITH**

**Old Testament definition of “Faith” (Heb. Aman); root meaning – ‘dependance.’**

**New Testament definition of, “Faith” (Gk. Pisteuo) – “dependance”; “to place the full weight upon.”**

***THE FIRST CRITICAL FACT IS ..*** that the full meaning of faith is not simply to agree with or to understand something. Rather, **faith means to completely depend upon something.**

***THE SECOND CRITICAL FACT, ..*** to understand about faith is that **Biblical faith must always have the proper object.**

It is not the faith, but it is faith in the **right object – God.**

*“...that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.” Jn 3:16*

# THREE VERY IMPORTANT THINGS ABOUT FAITH

***FIRST, WE ARE TOLD THAT FAITH IS THE ASSURANCE OF THINGS HOPED FOR.***

Assurance, literally means “something placed beneath.” Faith is not blind. It has a basis.

- It included actually seeing God or hearing His voice.
- The fulfilled prophecies of God’s word.
- The resurrection and miracles of Christ.
- The outcome of the lives of others when they trusted God.
- The internal witness of the Holy Spirit.
- The past faithfulness of God in their lives

These things build an assurance strong enough to depend on God and obey Him.

***SECOND, FAITH IS THE CONVICTION OF THINGS NOT SEEN.***

This word, “conviction,” is not the accusation of the accuser, but the **final pronouncement** of the judge.

It is therefore a **final decision** that a person makes about what is unseen – God, heaven, rewards, all that God does invisibly – and this conviction results in acting on these things as **truth**.

That conviction (final decision) frees and even **motivates us to act**. That is what faith is.

***THIRD, IT WAS FAITH THAT CAUSED ALL SAINTS IN ALL OF HISTORY TO GAIN GOD'S APPROVAL.***

**All** the men throughout salvation history that were saved only on the **basis of faith**. They may have been asked to express their faith in different ways:

- Built the Ark \* Sacrifice the son Isaac
- Believe in Christ's sacrifice alone for salvation

But behind each of these behaviors was and is the same basis of salvation – **exercising faith** – that is, depending on who God is and what He says He will do – and doing this in the way He prescribes at the time.

## SUMMARY FACTS

1. Faith is defined as **trust, belief**, but especially **dependence**.
2. Faith is not just intellectual assent. It is **dependence on God**.
3. Faith must always have an object. It is the ***OBJECT*** that makes faith work – and that object is always **God**.
4. Faith is an **inner conviction** allowing us the freedom to **obey** the unseen God.
5. Faith has always been the **only means** of salvation for men of all times.

# WHAT IT MEANS TO “LIVE BY FAITH”

*FIRST, IT IS A MEANS OF LIVING AND  
A MINDSET OF LOOKING AT AND  
INTERPRETING ALL OF LIFE*

Faith is the **means** by which we grow and move toward God's perfect will for us in life.

The **mindset** of living by faith is seeing life through the **reality of God's existence** and that **He will do what He says He will do.**

# WHAT IT MEANS TO “LIVE BY FAITH”

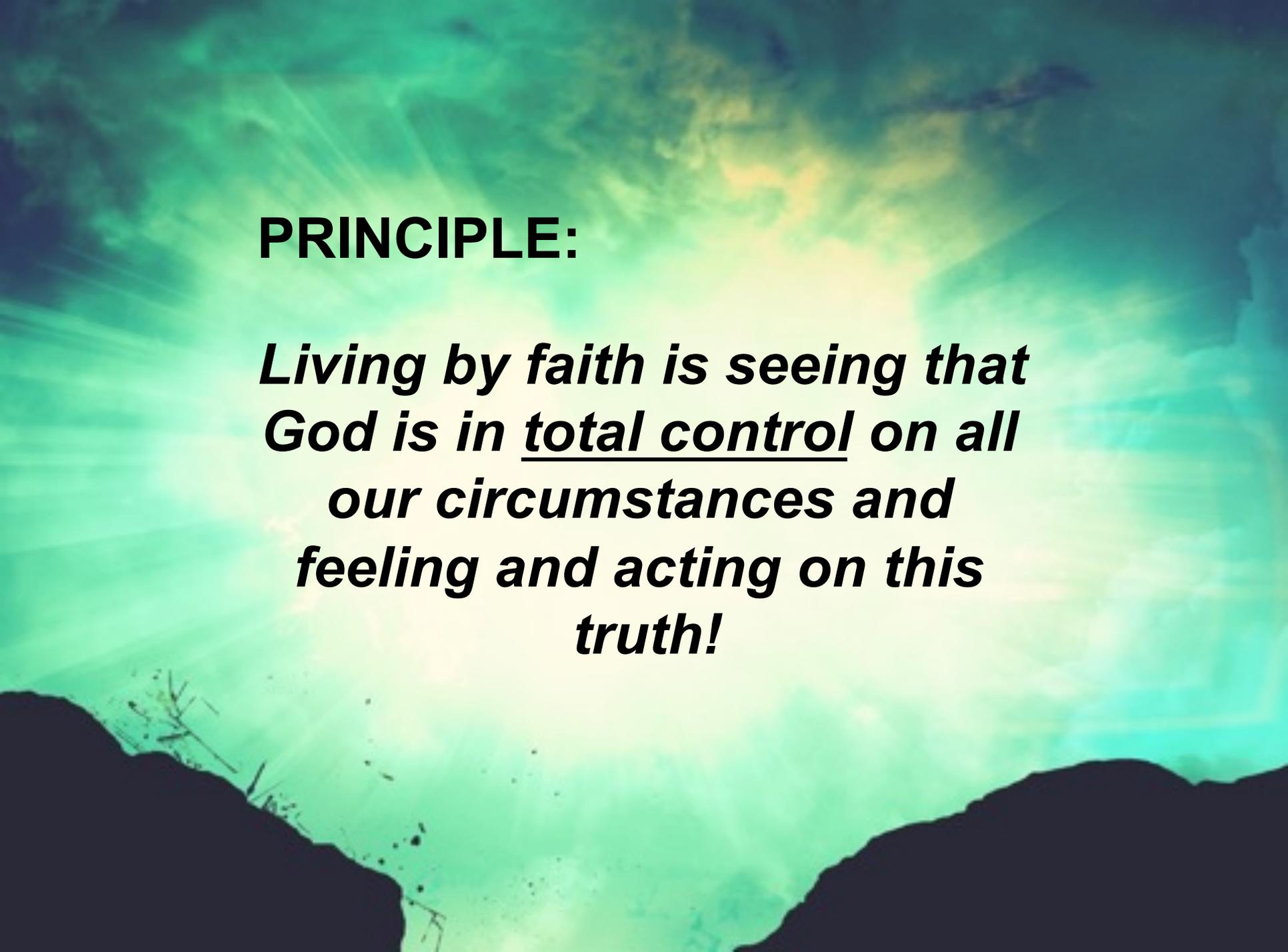
*The principle is that God is a good God and will keep His promise of blessing and reward to you.*

It does not just say that rewarding is what God does. It says the rewarding is **who God is!** He is a “rewarder kind” of God.

**Heb. 11:6** says, “And without faith it is impossible to please Him for he who come to God must believe that He is that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.

A dramatic landscape with a bright, glowing sky and dark silhouettes of mountains and trees. The sky is filled with a mix of blue, purple, and white light, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The foreground shows dark, jagged silhouettes of mountains and trees against the bright sky.

# **HOW Do We LIVE By FAITH?**



**PRINCIPLE:**

***Living by faith is seeing that  
God is in total control on all  
our circumstances and  
feeling and acting on this  
truth!***

**IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT'S  
IN FRONT OF HER**

**AS LONG AS SHE KNOWS  
WHOS BEHIND HER**



**1. Think of a circumstance that seems to threaten you. Picture it before you.**

**2. Now, picture God standing behind the circumstance/behind you – in total control of the circumstance**

**3. Now focus on the truth that God promises to work all things together for good!**

- **Hold that focus for a minute!**
- **Now how do you feel?**
- **What should you do as a result?**

**Living by faith means...  
to continually live life  
depending on the reality of who  
God is, and  
what He promised He will do**

