Questions and Concerns about Faith

Have you ever worried about your faith life? Maybe you feel a great desire to grow in faith and have a deeper relationship with God, but you're just not sure what to do or where to start. Or maybe you're concerned about stagnation, slipping up, or giving in to past temptations. You're not alone. When we asked *Groundwork* listeners like you to share their most pressing faith-related issues, there were clear and recurring themes: What is faith? How do we grow in it? And what about seasons of dryness or backsliding? Let's dig into scripture to answer some of your profound questions and concerns about personal faith.

AWARENESS Before listening reflect on what you already know or understand about topics we'll cover in the episode.

- How would you define faith?
- Are you intentional about cultivating your faith life? Why or why not?



LISTEN TO THE EPISODE: Questions and Concerns about Faith

READ Romans 3:21-26, 1 Corinthians 1:21, Romans 6:4-14, and more

REFLECTION After listening, consider the following questions:

- Hosts Scott Hoezee and Dave Bast describe a 2-part definition of faith, one part that is more knowledge-based and another that is more heart or assurance-based. Do you find one of those aspects of your faith easier to relate to? Which one do you need more assistance in maintaining or strengthening?
- In segment 2, Scott and Dave list a number of ways to grow in faith. Which of those ways do you already engage? What keeps you from engaging in the others?
- In what ways do you connect or engage with other believers around God's Word? How does this inform your faith?
- Why do you think we tend to feel so alone in times when we're struggling with faith?

RELATED PASSAGES for further study

<u>Hebrews 11:1, John 17:3, Ephesians 2:1-10, Romans 10:1-17, Acts 16:14, Luke 24:13-35, Hebrews 10:24-25</u>, Hebrews 2:1, Romans 7:14-25

CONCLUSION

As they close the episode, Scott and Dave emphasize the importance of your baptismal identity, saying, "Just remember who you are. You have union with Christ. You were made a new person through your baptism. You died with Christ; you were raised with Christ..." Think about ways to remind yourself of who you are in Christ during the times when you feel like your failing in your faith. Is there anything you can do while your faith is strong to prepare for seasons when your faith is weak?

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