

Six Commitments in Walking by Faith

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by Don Whaley

Because we walk by faith, it must have challenges; otherwise, we would not need the God-given faith. Our only evidence that our faith is in God is how we walk by faith. Everyone does walk by faith; the question is, “faith in what?”

The evidence of faith illustrates whether our faith is in God or elsewhere. God intends us to love Him as He loves us. He loves us unconditionally---we are totally undeserving of it. God’s love is a matter of choice. God gives us our faith to walk with Him regardless of the challenges and to love Him as a matter of choice.

Joni Eareckson Tada is perhaps the greatest example of this in our time. As a quadriplegic, she has demonstrated this choice of faith in God and impacted countless lives. Her ministry of Joni and Friends distributes wheelchairs and other aids to indigent people all over the world. They

share their faith while doing so. She has influenced the lives of many people who had no reason to hope. (Joni has published a book telling her story.) She had every worldly reason to run from God but has stayed the course, even though in tremendous pain. She says she simply turns it over to Jesus.

I believe that if you intend to walk with Jesus there are some commitments you must first make:

1. The bible is the infallible Word of God and the inerrant Word of God. The giant question for those who do not agree with this, yet profess Christianity is what then is your source for knowing God?

2. You must continually work on your concept of God. Your walk of faith is determined by your concept of God. The world shows us a cartoon character portraying God as an old man standing on a cloud. God is omnipotent, omniscience and omnipresent. His presence is throughout the universe. He knows our every thought and has counted every hair on our head. He knows when the sparrow falls. Now try to draw a picture of that God!

Science has now realized that creation is so complicated and orderly that it had to be created by intelligent design. If it was created by accident, planets would be running into each other. As one scientist stated, “The Bible and science keep lining up together.”

3. You accept God’s sovereignty only by using your free will to do so. God is so big that this is an impossibility with man. But not an impossibility with God! By accepting God’s sovereignty you accept any circumstance that comes upon you as from God and as being in your best interest. For examples of how this works study Acts or the life of Joseph in Genesis and Joseph’s statement (Genesis 50:20) “But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive.”

4. Walk-in obedience to our Lord. You can only do this by having

accountability partners. I can be completely objective about your situation, never about mine.

5. You must obey Romans 12: 1 & 2. Sacrifice your body and renew your mind. Otherwise, you walk in darkness. We were born with a sin nature. Our desire is to do that which we perceive is in our best interest. Having autonomy is not the sin. Choosing to make yourself your own god is the sin. Luke 9:62 “But Jesus said to him, “No one, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.”

6. You must have an eternal mindset. Titus 2: 11-13 “For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ.”

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