Hebrews 11:1-2, Bible Devotions

□ Monday - Blind Eyes Opened.

The unbeliever is blind (2 Cor. 4:4) to the evidence for the existence of God all around him (Rom. 1:18-20). And it is only when the Spirit of God opens the eyes of one born blind that faith is conceived and produces "assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen" (Heb. 11:1). The new Christian suddenly sees proof for God everywhere, written in Creation (Psa. 19:1), and upon the pages of Scripture (Psa. 119:160). This faith is not a blind leap into the dark, but a step into the light. It is the honest and rational belief in the objective truths of God's Word. Look up the verses above

□ **Tuesday - Assurance of things hoped for.** Hebrews 11:1 What is faith? Hebrews 11:1 says that "faith is the assurance of things hoped for". Faith is taking God at His Word (Psa. 119:160). It is believing that God is faithful (Heb. 10:23); and that what He has promised, He will do (Heb. 6:17-18). It is a sure and steadfast hope in those promises (Heb. 6:19). And it is a hope that will not be disappointed (Rom. 10:11). Dear Christian, in all of your activities today, trust in the Lord with all of your heart (Prov. 3:5), for He is trustworthy. Look up the verses above

□ Wednesday - Conviction of things not seen. Hebrews 11:1 True faith, biblical faith, is "the conviction of things not seen (Heb. 11:1b). The Christian believes, not in a god made out of wood or stone, but in the living God whom he cannot see (Psa. 115:3-8). For the one true God is pure spirit (Jn. 4:24), whom no man has seen or can see (1 Tim. 6:16). The child of God walks by faith and not by sight (2 Cor. 5:7). This is the way the people of God *live* (Hab. 2:4, Rom. 1:17, Gal. 3:11, Heb. 10:38). Christian, you have never seen God the Father, or Jesus, or the Holy Spirit, or heaven. So then, what is the source of this assurance and conviction that you have of these unseen realities? It is that supernatural gift of God called *faith* (Eph. 2:8). "And though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory" (1 Pet. 1:8). Does this describe you?

□ Thursday - The Gift of God.

Scripture declares, "For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, *it* is the gift of God" (Eph. 2:8). But what does "it" refer to? What is the gift of God: grace, salvation, faith? A pronoun (in this case "it") typically refers to the closest noun or noun phrase (the antecedent) that comes before it in a sentence, and the nearest antecedent is "faith". So we can say that faith is the gift of God. But Scripture bears testimony to the fact that all three: grace, salvation and faith are the gift of God. We are all born spiritually dead on arrival (Eph. 2:1). For any to believe, God must regenerate their spiritually dead heart (Titus 3:5), give them faith to believe in Christ (Eph. 2:8), and grant repentance (2 Tim. 2:25). Let the Christian say, "Thank You Lord for the gift of faith, that saved a wretch like me!"

□ Friday - Gains God's approval.

Scripture declares that faith without works is dead (Jam. 2:17, 26). The believer is not saved by faith plus works, but by faith that works. True faith is alive and it moves the believer to action. By faith Abel *worshipped* (v. 4), by faith Enoch *walked* (v. 5-6), by faith Noah *worked* (v. 7), by faith Abraham *went out* (v. 8). And the exercise of true faith pleases God (v. 5), and by it men of old gained God's approval (v. 2). But without faith that is alive and active, it is impossible to please God (v. 6). Look up the verses above

Hebrews 11:1

Hebrews 11:2

Hebrews 11:1