

Title: leap of faith I
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8 characteristics for the godly life – not just make-belief, but genuine faith

2 Peter 1:5–10 (NKJV) ⁵ But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, ⁶ to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, ⁷ to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. ⁸ For if **these things are yours and abound**, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins. ¹⁰ Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will **never stumble**;

Faith does not stand alone.

Giving all diligence – *Spiritual growth is not automatic.* It requires cooperation with God. God gives us everything we need, but we need to apply it to our lives.

Faith is more valuable than gold

1 Peter 1:6–7 (NKJV) ⁶ In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷ that **the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold** that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ,

A rich man is a man that has genuine faith.

Genuine faith: Not simply any faith, but genuine faith is the key. False, fake, pseudo faith is in abundance. Genuine faith can only be developed through the testing of trials.

***Genuine faith speaks of genuine relationship with God.** *A man that knows God as Abraham did or Moses. A friend of God.*

Faith pleases God

Hebrews 11:6 (NKJV) ⁶ But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

Authentic faith pleases God.

Without faith ... you're dead. *You're cut off from the life of God.*

Yet with faith - **the impossible, becomes possible**

**How is your faith? Are you pleasing God?*

He is a rewarder - God rewards us. *Faith connects us with all the rewards of God. God Himself and all the treasures of Heaven.*

Leap of faith - 2011

God is calling us to leaps of faith this year. Through it we say: "God I trust in you." This is where life happens.

Choose to grow in faith

How do we grow in genuine faith? Get your focus / or aim right. Aim for genuine faith. Set that the target for this year. I want to grow in faith. *Genuine Faith is more valuable* than gold, houses, power, position or anything else this world can offer.

Have to step into the experiential realm. We have to step out. We have to follow Him. We have to want to trust in Him. *Get something to trust God for.

Choose to step out. Don't fear failure. Aim for faith.

The impossible becomes possible... go for it!