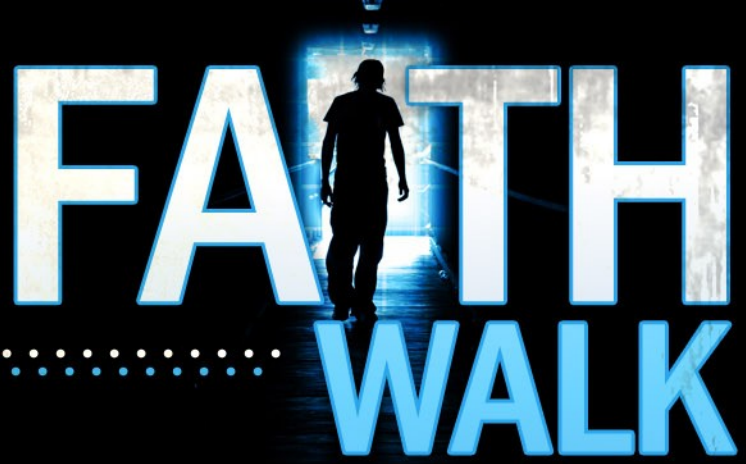
FAITH WALK

FAITH WALK

- Faith is not a one time act or event, but a lifetime, a walk.
  2 Cor. 5:7
- We must learn to walk <u>by faith</u>!
- What are the defining moments that form and mold and make a life of faith?

CONVICTION…



- Before one can begin on the path of a life of faith they must come to conviction. ***Heb. 11:1-3***
- Conviction Vs. Preference
  - Would you die for your beliefs?
    A conviction is a belief that you will not change.
  - Why? A man believes that his God requires it of him.

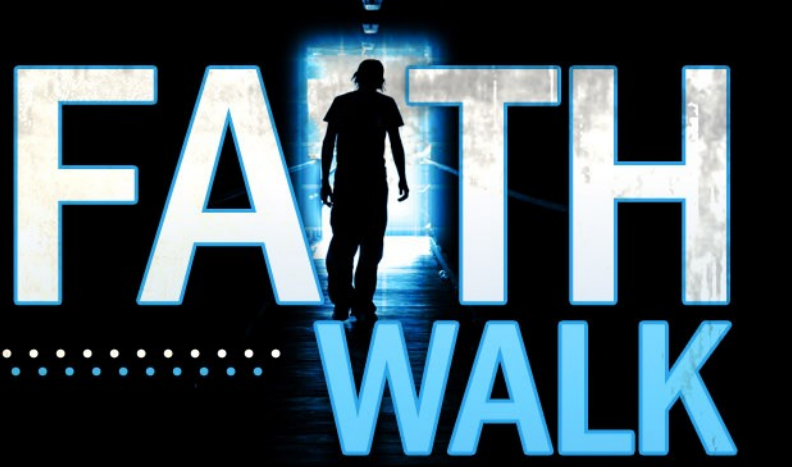
CONVICTION…

- A conviction is not something that you discover, it is something that you purpose in your heart. ***Dan. 1- 3***
- Abraham, the friend of God, the father of the faithful, illustrates conviction. ***Gen. 15:1-6***
  - The conviction of Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible and receives the impossible.

CONVICTION…

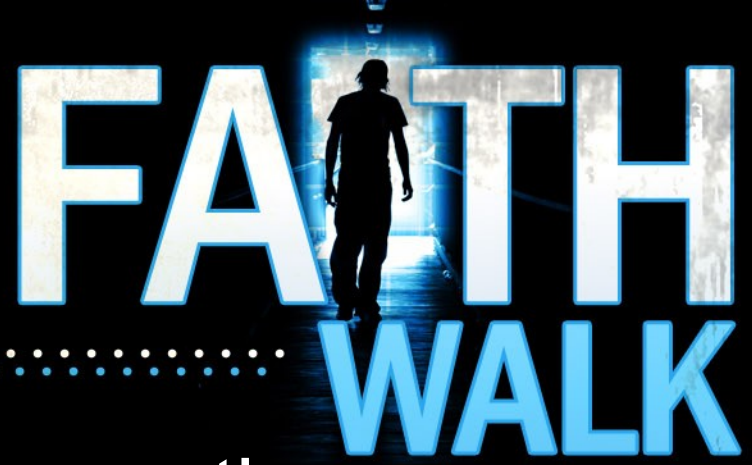
- **Conviction requires "coming to oneself"** ***Luke 15:11-20***
  - His conviction caused him to get up and out of the mud of the pig sty and return back to his father.
  - This conviction was a defining moment in this man's life. It forever altered his life, his choices, his priorities

CONVICTION…



- **Conviction leads to conversion!**
  - Those on Pentecost ***Acts 2:36-37***
  - The Philippian jailer… ***Acts 16:25-34***
  - This conviction led to their conversion and a life of faith, a life altering course in their purpose and relationship with God.
- *"If you don't make up your mind, your unmade mind will unmake you"*

COMMITMENT…



- Faith requires more than conviction, it also demands commitment. ***Luke 9:57-62***
- *It is a "defining moment" in a life of faith to realize that one must be not just convicted but committed to go all the way.*
- Commitment to a cause… ***Isa. 6:8***

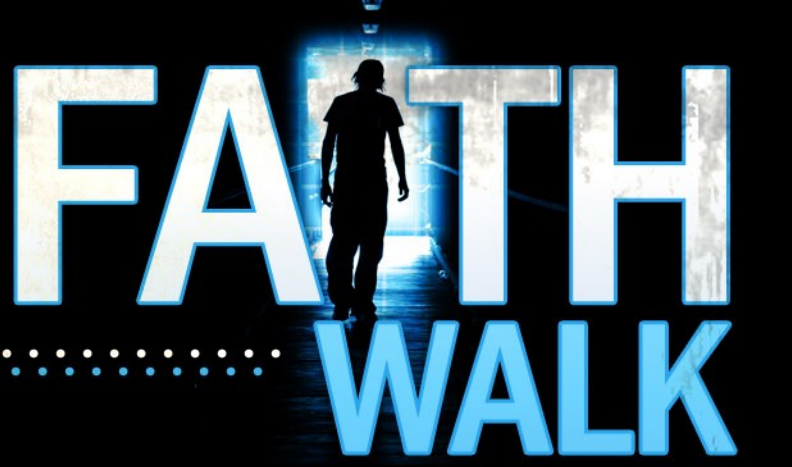
COMMITMENT…

- **Faith without commitment will lead to damnation.**
  - God is not pleased by faith without commitment. ***Heb. 10:38-39***
  - God was displeased with Ephraim ***Psalm 78:8-11***

CHALLENGE…

- In every life of faith there are times of challenge! ***Jas.1:2-4,12***
  - Challenges are like practice and exercise for our faith. It strengthens it, toughens it and prepares us to enter into eternal life.
- Consider the challenge to Abraham's faith ***Heb. 11:17-19***.

CHALLENGE…

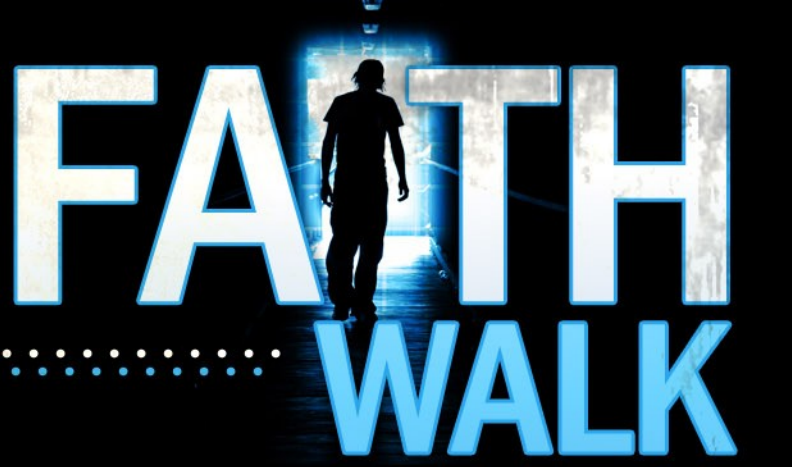


- "O For A Faith That Will Not Shrink" *Song # 379*
- The challenges in a life of faith are the moments that define and mold our faith and our lives.
- ***1 Peter 1:6-9***
  - *Illustration: The more the Iron is worked the more it is worth.*

CONFLICT…

- Every life, even a life of faith will face and have to deal with conflict.
  - Conflict with those without…
    - This tries the faith and can cause some to lose their faith as they wilt and fail under the pressure of the conflict. ***Mk. 4:16-17***
    - How to meet conflict & maintain faith ***Mt. 5:16; 1 Pet. 2:12***

CONFLICT…



– Conflict with false teachers…

2 Timothy 2:16-18

- face these conflicts, by shunning the false teachers and their false doctrines.

– Conflict with brethren…

- How are we to handle these conflicts so that they build our faith instead of destroy it? ***Eph. 4:1-3***

CALM…

- What about our day to day routine living?
  - Most days will be calm, routine, even dull !
  - How did Abraham live and walk by faith during those long periods when He did not hear from God?

    Gen. 12:8; See also, 13:3-4; 13:18

CALM…

- Not all life is on the mountain tops.
  - What we do with the time we have between, which in most of our lives is the true defining of our faith.
  - It has to do with your outlook, your attitude and your routine actions.

    1 Pet. 3:10-15

CALM…

- **We need to live the long stretches of our daily routine lives by faith also.**
  - Watching and waiting ***Prov. 8:34-35***
  - Looking to God ***Luke 11:3***
  - Praying ***Psalm 5:1-3***

CALM…

- **We need to live the long stretches of our daily routine lives by faith also.**
  - Studying God's Word ***Acts 17:11***
  - Denying ourselves and following Christ ***Lk. 9:23***
  - Exhorting, encouraging one another ***Heb. 3:13***

Conclusion:

- Have you faced the defining moments of faith in your life?
- Prepare for the judgment… ***Matt 25:23***
- Don't waste another day of your life, become a child of God by obeying the gospel of Jesus Christ!
  - **Hear, learn & believe the gospel** ***John 6:45***
  - **Repent** ***Acts 2:38*** **Confess** ***Acts 8:37***
    Be Baptized to wash away sin… ***Acts 22:16***