

Scripture: Hebrews 10:19-23; 11:1-6
Singing: 228:1-3 – 120:1-3 – 250:1, 2, 5 – 13:1, 5, 7

The Definition of Saving Faith (#3)

Intro: What is for you the only comfort in life and death?

A. All that is not Jesus Christ is *sinking sand*.

B. How do I become partaker of Jesus?

1. Through **faith in Him**

But without faith it is impossible to please him (Heb. 11:6)

2. Faith defined: *trust or commit* (Ps. 31:1, 5)

In Thee, O LORD, do I put my trust. Into thine hand I commit my spirit.

C. Faith or trust is described with many different verbs (action words)

1. actions differ according to maturity, but each indicate presence of *life*

a. some acts of faith are basic and remain life long

b. some acts of faith depend upon maturity of the believer: Heb. 5:11-14

The Examples of Specific Words Descriptive of Saving Faith

A. **Drink & Hunger:** *If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and **drink**. He that **drinketh** my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him (John 7:37a; 6: 56b)
*Blessed are they that hunger ... after righteousness (Matt. 5:6)**

B. **Flee & Trust:** *Deliver me, O LORD, from mine enemies: I **flee** unto thee to hide me (Ps. 143:9) The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; the God of my rock; in Him will I **trust (H: take refuge)**: he is my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my high tower, and my refuge, my saviour. (2 Sam. 22:3; Ps. 31:1)*

C. **Look:** ***Look** unto Me, and ye saved, all ends of the earth: Is. 45:22; Numb. 21:8*

D. **Come:** *He that **cometh** to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst (John 6:35)*

E. **Receive:** *But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name, which were born ... of God. (John 1:12-13)*
Confession, art. 22: *We believe that to attain the true knowledge of this great mystery, the Holy Ghost kindles in our hearts an upright faith, which embraces Jesus Christ with all His merits, appropriates Him, and seeks nothing more besides Him.*

F. **Resting:** *Come unto Me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. (Matt. 11:28) Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoiceth: my flesh also shall rest in hope. (Ps. 16:9)*

Close: **Lord, I believe, help thou my unbelief!**

A. No saving faith is exercised without the struggles of doubt and fears.

B. Yet be reminded of Paul's testimony of faith.

1. NOT: *Nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know **that** I have believed*

2. BUT: *Nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know **whom** I have believed*

a. the security of salvation does not depend upon the *quality of our faith*

b. the security depends upon the *object of your faith*

C. Let your focus be on the *unfailing Savior and His Gospel Words*

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee; because He trusteth in THEE! (Is. 26:3)

*For the Scripture saith, Whosoever believeth **on Him** shall not be ashamed (i.e. put to shame; Ps. 31:1)*