



SERIES: August / September Series “HE IS ENOUGH”

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Tuesday, 08/03/2021

Scripture: Colossians 1:3-4

TITLE: Where is Your Faith?

How do you display your faith? Well, you may suppose, it depends on the kind of faith you’re talking about. If it’s faith in travel, you may get into your car, plug in a location on your GPS, and drive on roads you’ve never traveled, to a location you’ve never visited. It takes faith to make that trip. You may eat at a restaurant you’ve never eaten at, that came recommended online, or by a coworker. It took faith to try it for yourself. Those moments of faith are everyday opportunities. But what if I asked you to hop into a wheelbarrow as I pushed you across a rope between two skyscrapers? You would have to have faith in the instruments used, but more importantly, in the person driving the journey.

Well, today, we must have that kind of faith if we are going to navigate life well. What do I mean by that? Let’s turn back to Colossians 1, as Paul provides the answer in Colossians 1:3-4 (NLT):

“We always pray for you, and we give thanks to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and your love for all of God’s people.”

Paul’s words are encouraging. The NLT does a poor job of translating this first phrase. It should be translated, “While praying, I give thanks to God for you.” It’s not that Paul doesn’t pray for them; He does. But the focus on the prayer is on the gratitude for God calling them. Their faith is real. Their Salvation is sure. How do I know? Paul says, “I’ve heard of your faith in Christ Jesus.” That’s how we know. The object in their faith is not in a what, but a who. And the Who is Jesus Christ.

When I was a kid, I saw this T-shirt that had a picture of Buddha sitting cross-legged on a seat attached to a cross. The words read, “What’s wrong with this picture?” Obviously, Buddha didn’t go to a cross, and surely if he did, he wouldn’t be sitting like he’s doing yoga. Jesus Christ is the object of saving faith. It’s not a religious practice. It’s not by creating your own religion. It’s not by wishing on a star.

Salvation is found in Jesus Christ alone. And this faith results in a real-life change. That’s why Paul points out the love for God’s people. When we experience it, it means a turning from our sin to God. It means turning from our ways to God’s ways. It means turning from loving myself to loving others. Saving faith works as James describes and Paul recognizes. One manifestation of this life change is a love for your brothers and sisters in Christ.

So this is my challenge for you today: show your love. God has displayed radical grace and love to you. How and to whom can you show that same kind of love? Is it in providing a meal for someone? Is it in spending time listening to a hurting friend? Is it in holding someone accountable as they are drifting? There are many ways to display God's love. Find one person and do just one thing.

Take time and share the love below. We'd love to know you're here and you care.

When we display our saving faith through love, we will win the day.