

18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost ~ Sunday, September 23, 2018  
**Radicalis: Deepening Our Spiritual Roots ~ Radical Faith**  
Hebrews 11:1-3; 7-16

Radical =

*Radicalis* (Latin) =

“Just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to live in obedience to him. Let your roots grow down into him and draw up nourishment from him.” (Colossians 2:6-7)

### THE FUNCTION OF ROOTS

- They provide \_\_\_\_\_
- They provide \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

If we want to live with a sense of \_\_\_\_\_ and intentionality, our lives need to be deeply \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ and His love.

When we grow deep in Christ, we can \_\_\_\_\_ tall and large; stand \_\_\_\_\_ amidst the storms of life; and bear much \_\_\_\_\_ in our lives.

“Blessed are those who trust in the Lord and have made the Lord their hope and confidence. They’re like trees planted along a river bank with roots that reach deep into the water. They’re not bothered by the heat. They’re not worried by long months of drought. Their leaves stay green, and they never stop producing fruit.” (Jeremiah 17:7-8)

Faith =

Faith = *am’an* (Hebrew) =

Faith = *pistis* (Greek) =

### FAITH IN THE BIBLE

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### 6 CHARACTERISTICS OF RADICAL FAITH

**#1. Radical faith is \_\_\_\_\_ even when I don’t \_\_\_\_\_.**

“Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.” (Hebrews 11:1)

Scripture tells us there are some things we have to \_\_\_\_\_ in order to \_\_\_\_\_.

“Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.” (John 20:29)

**Radical faith says; “I’m going to trust God to make my dream a reality.”**  
**Are you willing to believe what you cannot see?**

**#2. Radical faith is \_\_\_\_\_ even when I don’t \_\_\_\_\_.**

“It was by faith that Noah built an ark to save his family from the flood. He obeyed God who warned him about something that had never happened before. It was faith that made Abraham obey when God called him to go out to a country that God had promised to him. He left his own country without knowing where he was going.” (Hebrews 11:7-8)

So much of life is beyond our \_\_\_\_\_. We’re not God; we’re limited in our \_\_\_\_\_—in what we can see and \_\_\_\_\_. However, God doesn’t call us to understand—He calls us to have faith and to \_\_\_\_\_ in Him.

It’s easy to trust God when things make \_\_\_\_\_ or when we understand what’s going on. It’s trusting in God when things don’t make sense or when we don’t understand that we demonstrate \_\_\_\_\_ and radical faith.

God doesn’t always give us a \_\_\_\_\_—He wants us to live by faith. And \_\_\_\_\_ always involves trusting Him and taking \_\_\_\_\_.

Many of the things that Scripture calls us to do seem:

“‘My thoughts are nothing like your thoughts,’ says the Lord. ‘And my ways are far beyond anything you could imagine.’” (Isaiah 55:8)

**Radical faith says; “I’m going to do it—I’m going to trust and obey God even when I don’t understand.”**  
**How easily do you obey God when you don’t understand?**

**#3. Radical faith is \_\_\_\_\_ even when I don’t \_\_\_\_\_ like it.**

Faith is rooted in God’s nature and \_\_\_\_\_. Faith is grounded in God’s \_\_\_\_\_ contained in His Word; it’s \_\_\_\_\_ to by countless men, women, and children throughout history.

“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.” (Hebrews 13:8)

Our feelings are \_\_\_\_\_; they’re constantly \_\_\_\_\_; they’re

dependent on what's going on in us and around us. As a result, they can lead us \_\_\_\_\_ from God.

"It was by faith Moses left Egypt and was not afraid of the King's anger. He held to his purposes like a man who could see the invisible. (Hebrews 11:27)

It's easier to \_\_\_\_\_—especially in difficult times—when you can see the invisible—when you can see God's \_\_\_\_\_ in your life. It's also easy to persist when you know that your suffering isn't without \_\_\_\_\_.

"We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance. And endurance develops strength of character, and character strengthens our confident hope of salvation." (Romans 5:3)

"Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 3:12-15)

**Radical Faith says; "I'm going to trust in God and persist, even when I don't feel like it." Could you use a little more persistence?**

**#4. Radical faith is \_\_\_\_\_ it in order to \_\_\_\_\_ it.**

"It was by faith that Joseph, when he was about to die, confidently spoke of God's bringing the people of Israel out of Egypt. He was so sure of it that he commanded them to carry his bones with them when they left." (Hebrews 11: 22)

There's \_\_\_\_\_ in God's spoken word and according to Scripture, there's power in our words too.

"Death and life are in the power of the tongue." (Proverbs 18:21)

"...no one can tame the human tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so." (James 3:9-10)

"Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen." (Ephesians 4:29)

"But just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—'I believed, and so I spoke'—we also believe, and so we speak, because we know that

the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence." (2 Corinthians 4:13-14)

**Radical Faith says; "I choose to speak words of life and not death; and to believe that nothing is impossible for God." How do use your words?**

**#5. Radical faith is \_\_\_\_\_ God in \_\_\_\_\_.**

"By faith the walls of Jericho fell, after the people had marched around them for seven days." (Hebrews 11:30)

Anyone can thank God when it's all \_\_\_\_\_, but it takes radical faith to stand out \_\_\_\_\_.

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." (1 Thessalonians 5:16)

It's God's \_\_\_\_\_ that we praise Him and give Him thanks in all \_\_\_\_\_ and places—no matter what's happening.

**Radical faith says; "I trust God to deliver and I'll thank Him in advance." What do you need to thank God in advance for?**

**#6. Radical faith is \_\_\_\_\_ God no matter what the \_\_\_\_\_.**

"They were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised. God had planned something better." (Hebrews 11:39-40)

It's easy to trust God when things go as we \_\_\_\_\_, but what about when they don't?

True fulfilment comes from \_\_\_\_\_ ourselves and our prayers within God's will and \_\_\_\_\_ for us. And just because things don't work out as we planned or prayed doesn't mean God isn't in \_\_\_\_\_.

"Though the fig tree does not blossom, and no fruit is on the vines; though the produce of the olive fails, and the fields yield no food; though the flock is cut off from the fold, and there is no herd in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the Lord; I will exult in the God of my salvation. God, the Lord, is my strength; he makes my feet like the feet of a deer, and makes me tread upon the heights." (Habakkuk 3:17-18)

**Radical faith says; "No matter what happens, I choose to trust God." How do you respond when things don't go according to plan?**

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**Given these 6 characteristics, how radical is your faith?**

**How deep are your spiritual roots—are you rooted and grounded in Christ?**