

TOPIC: FAITH

REFLECTIONS OF GOD'S GRACE BIBLE STUDY

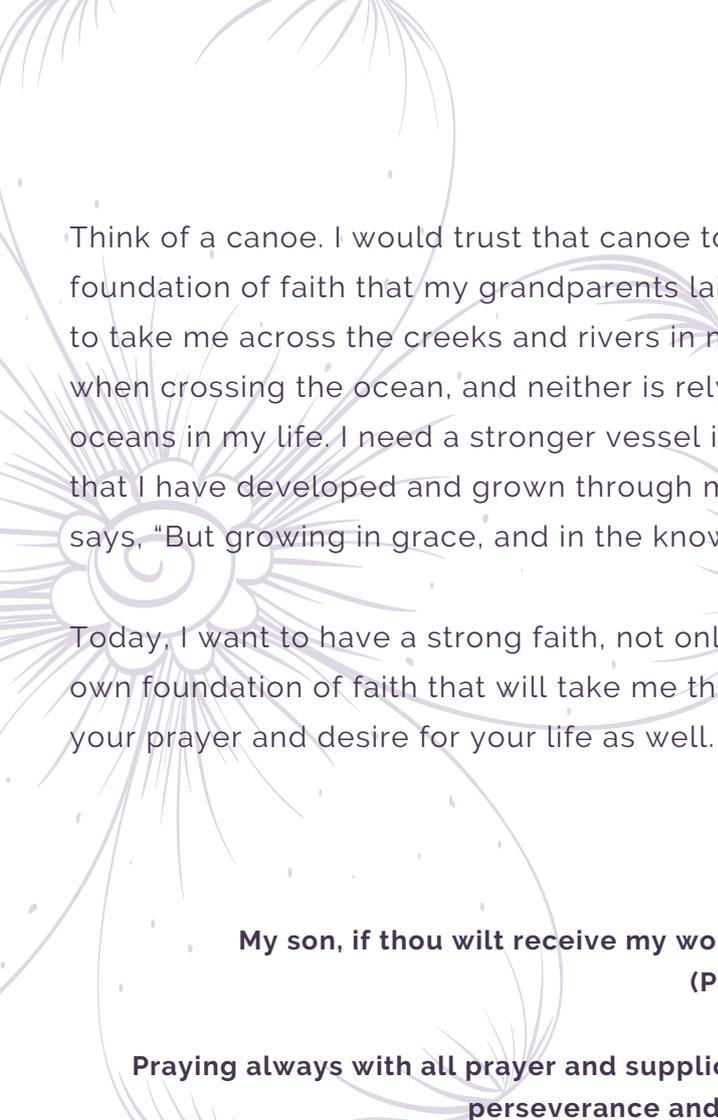
Your Own Foundation of Faith

When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also. (2 Timothy 1:5)

I have been very blessed to have had godly examples throughout my life by those in my family. I knew six of my eight great-grandparents, and I was twelve years old the first time a grandparent went home to be with the Lord. I had the opportunity to watch God work in all of their lives. One of my most cherished memories is of my great-grandmother, Ruby Lee Colquitt (a.k.a., Maw-Maw), walking the aisles of the church my grandfather, and later my uncle, pastored, waving her black walking stick above her head in a circle, all the while testifying of God's goodness, grace, mercy, and provision in her life. (I want to be like her.) Another great-grandmother, Annie Maude Swann (a.k.a., Nanny) was one of the most precious ladies you could ever meet, such a kind-hearted woman, always with a smile on her face and a hug to comfort you. She was blind the last eight to ten years of her life, but she was always content, as Paul said in Philippians 4:11, whether she had her vision or not, whether she had her health or not, whether she had money in the bank or not, all because she fully trusted God in her life. (I want to be like her.)

I could go on and on about other members of my family who have been inspiration in my life. Hearing their testimonies and watching their faith in action has laid the foundation for my faith, but just having that first layer of foundation isn't enough to get me through all of the stormy seas in my life. I must then build upon the foundation they've laid in my life, by reading God's Word (Proverbs 2), praying and seeking Him in all things (Ephesians 6:18, Hebrews 11:6), and attending church regularly

(Romans 10:17 "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing the Word of God"). It is as I walk by faith that my faith grows. My great-grandmothers' faith, my grandparents' faith, my parents' faith, and others' faith are enough to take me through shallow waters, but when I'm out in the ocean and the storms are raging, I need my own foundation of faith to take me through.



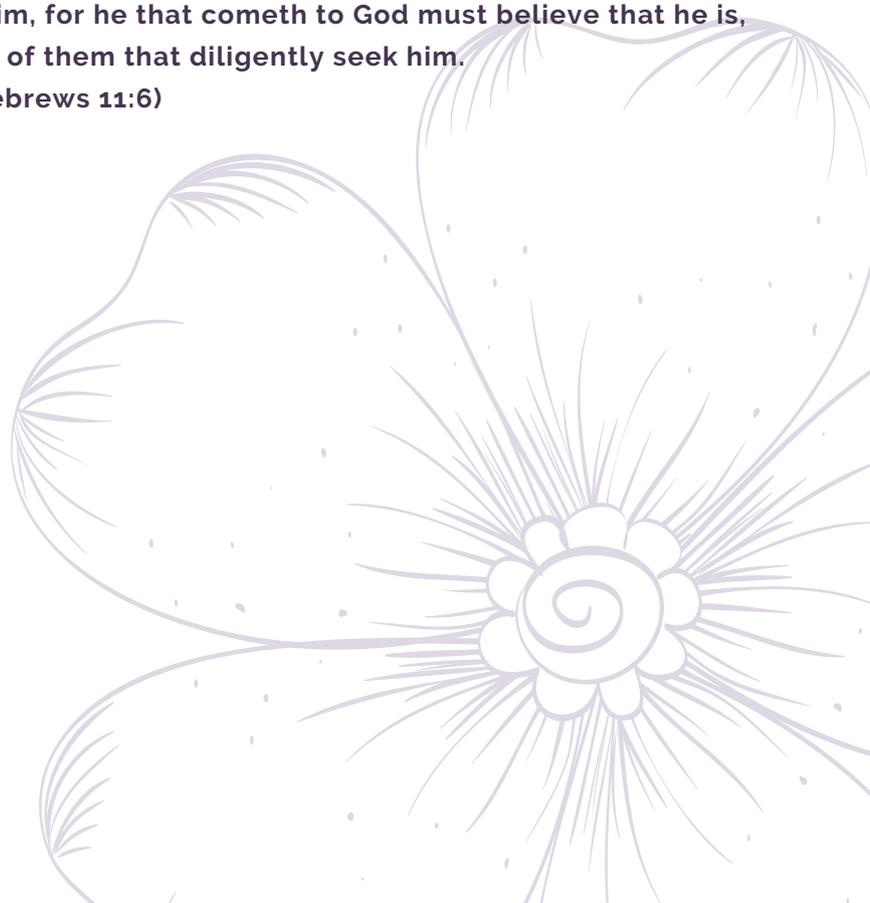
Think of a canoe. I would trust that canoe to take me across a creek, a lake, or even a river. The foundation of faith that my grandparents laid in my life is my canoe. It has been a great vessel to take me across the creeks and rivers in my life. But a canoe would not be a wise choice when crossing the ocean, and neither is relying on the faith of others to get me across the oceans in my life. I need a stronger vessel in those times, a bigger ship, a stronger faith, one that I have developed and grown through my relationship with the Father. Second Peter 3:18 says, "But growing in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

Today, I want to have a strong faith, not only the faith of my "fathers" but I want to build my own foundation of faith that will take me through the deeper waters of life. I hope that is your prayer and desire for your life as well.

**My son, if thou wilt receive my words and hide my commandments with thee.
(Proverbs 2:1)**

**Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all
perseverance and supplication for all saints.
(Ephesians 6:18)**

**But without faith it is impossible to please him, for he that cometh to God must believe that he is,
and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.
(Hebrews 11:6)**



DEVOTIONAL STUDY FORM

Date:

Scripture Passage:

Step 1: **Prayer for Insight**

(Check When Done)

Step 2: **Meditation**

Six ways to meditate on a verse:

1. **PICTURE IT!** Visualize the scene in your mind.
2. **PRONOUNCE IT!** Say the verse aloud, each time emphasizing a different word.
3. **PARAPHRASE IT!** Rewrite the verse in your own words.
4. **PERSONALIZE IT!** Replace the pronouns or people in the verse with your own name.
5. **PRAY IT!** Turn the verse into a prayer and say it back to God.
6. **PROBE IT!** Ask the following nine questions:

Step 3: **Application**

Is there a...

SIN TO CONFESS?

PROMISE TO KEEP?

ATTITUDE TO CHANGE?

COMMAND TO KEEP?

EXAMPLE TO FOLLOW?

PRAYER TO PRAY?

ERROR TO AVOID?

TRUTH TO BELIEVE?

SOMETHING TO THANK GOD FOR?

Step Four: **Memorization** (What verse will I memorize?)

Verse: