

Steps of Faith

Deuteronomy 10:12-13

Deuteronomy 10:12-13 (NASB)

¹²“Now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require from you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all His ways and love Him, and to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul,

¹³ *and* to keep the LORD’S commandments and His statutes which I am commanding you today for your good?”

The Bible portrays the Christian life as a walk. It speaks of walking in the Spirit, in God’s ways, in love, and in truth. Our lives, then, shouldn’t be stagnant; they ought to move and develop to be increasingly like the life of Jesus. Scripture calls this *sanctification*. (1

Thessalonians 4:1-8.)

1 Thessalonians 4:1-8 (NASB)

¹“Finally then, brethren, we request and exhort you in the Lord Jesus, that as you received from us *instruction* as to how you ought to walk and please God (just as you actually do walk), that you excel still more.

² For you know what commandments we gave you by *the authority of* the Lord Jesus.

³ For this is the will of God, your sanctification; *that is*, that you abstain from sexual immorality;

⁴ that each of you know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor,

⁵ not in lustful passion, like the Gentiles who do not know God;

⁶ *and* that no man transgress and defraud his brother in the matter because the Lord is *the avenger* in all these things, just as we also told you before and solemnly warned *you*.

⁷ For God has not called us for the purpose of impurity, but in sanctification.

⁸ So, he who rejects *this* is not rejecting man but the God who gives His Holy Spirit to you.”

But what if you feel you’re going backward instead of forward? Turning around can happen only by faith in Christ. Here’s how to correct your course:

- *First, have assurance that God keeps every promise. The Bible contains an amazing number of guarantees for believers, including wisdom for the asking, God’s constant presence, and peace when we focus on Him.*
- *Second, anticipate the Father’s response. In other words, joyfully expect that your confidence in His promises will lead to blessing.*
- *Third, be aware daily of His involvement in your life. By spending time in the Word and prayer, you will become sensitive to what He is doing.*
- *Fourth, pray boldly because you are God’s child (Hebrews 4:16; Galatians 3:26). Approaching the Father in such a manner isn’t a prideful confidence, but an overflow of your assurance in Him.*

Hebrews 4:16 (NASB)

¹⁶“Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”

Galatians 3:26 (NASB)

²⁶“For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.”

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- *Finally, obey the leading of the Holy Spirit. This is the true test of your belief. As [James 2:17](#) says, faith without action is dead.*

James 2:17 (NASB)

¹⁷ **“Even so faith, if it has no works, is dead, *being* by itself.”**

Can you sense that your life is progressing, and you are maturing into Christ’s likeness? Or do circumstances and character traits seem to hold you back? God promises to continue making His children beautiful throughout their lives. You can resist Him or cooperate with His gracious work in you.