

*"And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them, And said, 'Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven.' Matthew 18:2-4 KJV*



If you tell a child you are going to give them a cookie, they will pester you till you do. They anticipate the fruition of your promise. They, in fact, expect it! God honors simple unquestioning faith. We often complicate faith with the if's, and's, and but's of doubt which are actually unbelief! Worry is unbelief. Most of God's promises are conditional upon your obedience. The Truth is, you either trust God or not! *"Faith is the...evidence of things NOT SEEN!"* Complicating faith with a plethora of add-ons is actually a lack of it. Faith needs no admixture of anything. *"Faith cometh by...the Word of God...and that, not of yourself, it is the gift of God."* Some say you have to "prove" your faith. No, you have to "have" faith. A believer's obedience to God's Word verifies they possess it; disobedience proves you don't. *"Without faith, it is impossible to please...God."* Jesus, the "Word made flesh," said, *"My sheep hear (believe and obey) my voice and they follow me.' Hereby we do know that we know Him, if we keep (obey) His commandments."* Obeying God's Word in spite of circumstance is the epitome of faith. God said it and that settles it! It doesn't matter what I do. The fearful will be cast into the lake of fire. If anxiety overrides your faith, then you sink into unbelief. All, "What if's," are straight from the pit of hell! They reiterate the first Satanic question, *"Hast God said?"* If you don't read your Bible the fault lies with you, not God! God has never failed to provide for the needs of His faithful. His commands are His blessings, not His provision. Provision already awaits the obedient. If you disobey, then you can expect that God will chasten you in love and that you will have to supply your own need. He will never forsake you, but He may remove things from your life that hinder your faith. Sometimes we fearfully clutch our few meager "fishes," when, if we would relinquish them to God, He could satisfy the multitude. I can worry about "bills," or I can be a good steward with what He gives me the ability to earn, and remain confident that He will make it enough. How many of your bills are the result of your covetousness? The obedient will always have provision. *"Having food and raiment let us be therewith content."*

Faith in God removes the fright,  
Of giving God our final mite,  
We simply trust His wealth and might,  
We know He'll always do what's right. ~CGP

Tithing is about more than money. God expects, at the least, a tenth of everything, time, goods, and increase, and wise stewardship of the rest. God doesn't need our gifts or tithes, but He does require faith that gives them. Giving the "widow's mite" to God is probably one of the greatest displays of faith we have outside of prayer.

*"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof." Matthew 6:33-34 KJV*