The Adventure Ahead

Pastor Art Hunt May 31-June 1, 2014

But you, dear friends, build yourselves up in your most holy faith . . . Jude 1:20a (New International Version)

START WITH A **SOLID FOUNDATION** OF FAITH.

Three Cornerstones of a Solid Faith

First cornerstone: It's about <u>faith</u>, not works.

Then they asked him, "What must we do to do the works God requires?" ²⁹Jesus answered, "The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent." John 6:28-29 (NIV)

And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. ¹²He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. ¹³I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life. 1 John 5:11-13 (NIV)

• Second cornerstone: It's about <u>love</u>, not rules. (See Ephesians 1:4)

... "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." Matthew 22:37 (NIV)

Third cornerstone: It's about <u>process</u>, not perfection.

The **goal of our faith** = a deepening love for God that remakes us into the likeness of Jesus Christ

For God knew his people in advance, and he chose them to become like his Son . . . Romans 8:29a (New Living Translation)

And we . . . are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit. 2 Corinthians 3:18 (NIV)

REGULARLY BUILD ON YOUR FAITH FOUNDATION.

"Now Faith is the art of holding on to things your reason has once accepted, in spite of your changing moods . . . unless you teach your moods 'where to get off,' you can never be a sound Christian . . . Consequently one must train the habit of faith. The first step is to recognize the fact that your moods change. The next is to make sure that, if you have once accepted Christianity, then some of its main doctrines shall be deliberately held before your mind for some time every day. That is why daily prayer and religious readings and church-going are necessary parts of the Christian life. We have to be continually reminded of what we believe. Neither this belief nor any other will automatically remain alive in the mind. It must be fed. And as a matter of fact, if you examined a hundred people who had lost their faith . . . I wonder how many of them would turn out to have been reasoned out of it by honest argument? Do not most people simply drift away?" From Mere Christianity by C.S. Lewis.

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NIV)