

February 16, 2022

The Lord wants you to experience real and abundant life:

Heb. 11:6 *And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to Him must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him.* (NIV)

As I was meditating on this familiar passage, it struck me that part of living an abundant life is taking advantage of the wonderful 'rewards' that the LORD has brought my way. It is interesting how many businesses try to lure you into their stores or websites by offering you a 'rewards program.' The more that you spend with them, the more 'points' you can accrue and then you can get a certain amount off of your next purchase. But let's be clear; it's always on the next purchase. In other words, they do this to get you to continue to patronize their business. I'm not saying this is necessarily wrong, but it does somewhat tie you to their brand or store.

Let me introduce you to the greatest rewards program in all of eternity. You don't have to spend a certain amount. You don't have to fill out a lengthy application. You don't even have to go online. All it takes is faith. And what is faith? **Heb. 11:1** *Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.* (NIV) Now everyone uses a certain amount of faith every day. You proceed through an intersection because the light is green and by faith, you expect the cars from the other direction will stop. You walk over to your desk and sit down in your chair, fully expecting that that chair will hold you up. These are just a couple of examples of the many times daily that we exhibit faith.

Now look at the rewards that we get from walking in faith with the LORD. We receive eternal life. We receive abundant life. We receive His provision. We receive joy that is unspeakable and full of glory. We receive a heavenly promise. We receive direction for our daily lives. I think you may be getting the picture here. There is no better 'reward' than to hear Him say on that day:

"Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your Master's happiness!" Mt. 25:23 (NIV)

Dear LORD, thank You for all of the ways that You have already rewarded us. You have blessed us beyond measure. Your mercies are new every morning. Great is Your faithfulness! In Jesus Name, Amen