

1A Word from Our Preaching Pastor:

Sunday, March 29, 2009

And without faith it is impossible to please God

Hebrews 11:6

So what is faith? I did a little internet research this week and it looks to me like many people think of faith as a *power source* – something we come up with that enables us to accomplish anything we desire. One man said, “*Faith is an awesome force that can give us the power to accomplish the seemingly impossible.*” Another adds, “*Your power of faith can help you to achieve what you want in life.*” Still another proclaims that, “*Faith is a powerful force that humanity is yet to embrace.*” And well-known “faith” preacher Joel Osteen even wrote a book called “*Unleashing the Power of Faith*” in which He said, “*It's wonderful to know that faith is a power and a force.*”

But is faith really a power? Is that what the Bible means, when it says we must have ***faith*** in Christ? Are we supposed to work up some force within ourselves and then “send it up” in order to bring Christ and his benefits down to earth? Or is faith something different?

This morning, we’ll be looking at ***The Powerlessness of Faith***. By that I mean that faith in itself, is *nothing* apart from Christ. It’s not an energy or force we can use to get what we want from God. It doesn’t begin with us and, to be honest, it isn’t about us. Faith is all about Christ. By faith we trust Christ to be Who He claims to be and to do what He promised He’ll do.

So what is faith? Faith is nothing more and nothing less than trusting in the power and faithfulness of God to do what He’s promised to do through Christ. And when by faith we trust in Him, we find that He is all we need!

Standing in Him by faith alone,

Pastor Scott!

PS - The elders had a great time of retreat this weekend. We’re looking forward to sharing with you some of ways we believe God is leading us at Rockport during our semi-annual congregational meeting next Sunday afternoon.