

## **Believing is Seeing**

John 20:25-29    2 Kin 7:18-20(NLT)    Heb 11:11    Luk 1:45

Doubt occurs when we begin to think we have to see God to believe in Him, and when our faith is dependent on what our eyes can see.

Faith requires the opposite. One definition of faith is a "firm belief in something of which there is no proof.". Faith calls us to believe, despite not having any visual evidence.

If seeing were believing, then faith would be irrelevant and unnecessary. Jesus would forever be trying to convince us that He is the Holy One through signs, wonders and miracles. Our faith would always be hanging in the balance, and likely decline as soon as we felt the need to see just one more proof of His existence, His sovereignty, or His power.

Faith comes by hearing God's Word, and believing it – We do not believe because we have seen a fulfilment of what God has said. We believe because God is faithful, and everything He says is true. Then, after believing, we will see the fulfilment of God's promises.

It will not always be easy to believe – the circumstances may seem contrary to what God has said in His Word and by His Spirit; the enemy will plant seeds of doubt to choke up the Word – But we should determine in our hearts to be the kind of soil where God's Word will take root and bear fruit.

It is never the seed of God's Word that is at fault. It is the soil of our hearts that we must cultivate. God does not favour some people over others – we can all partake in His promises if we believe. Believing is our only hope of seeing the wonderful things that the Lord has done.

## **Points for Discussion**

- 1. What can we learn from Thomas & the king's officer about doubt?*
- 2. What can we learn from Mary and Sarah about faith?*
- 3. What should we base our believing in when the enemy tries to plant doubt in our minds? (also see Numbers 23:19)*