

Study Guide  
Video: Relationship 1.1 – Believe

One thing God requires of every believer is FAITH.

**Hebrews 11:6** And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

Everyone of us who wants to be in an authentic relationship with Jesus must BELIEVE. In other words, we have to be willing to take God's word for things we either cannot know or cannot understand.

The basic question we all need to ask ourselves is:

“Am I willing to believe what God has said in His word?”

Our spiritual health depends on our willingness to answer that question with a “Yes”!

God is not asking us for a casual acknowledgment of His word. He wants us to base our lifestyles, our choices, our worldview on His word. Everything we think, do, say, and believe is to be molded by God's truth – The Bible.

**John 17:17** Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.

One example where faith is required is God's existence. No one can conclusively prove, to the satisfaction of every person, that God exists. It's unprovable philosophically speaking.

However, everyone on the planet can consider the heavens above and the world we live in. How is it that the Sun is the exact distance from the Earth to sustain life on Earth? Our planet doesn't freeze us to death nor does it bake us to death. The Sun hangs in space at precisely the right distance so that life flourishes on Earth. Who can do that?

There is no scientific explanation of how this happened. Those who do not believe in the existence of God find themselves believing extremely improbable theories to answer the questions of where everything came from and how did the design of the universe come under such precision.

Those who believe in God discover a very satisfying explanation in His word. God declares that He exists in His word. Even a casual examination of life yields an overwhelming flood of evidence which supports the belief that God is. It is by faith that we know God exists – not by absolute proof.

A second illustration of how faith works in our lives is found in the Person of Jesus. Our perception and physical senses may not tell us Jesus is in the room. We most likely won't see Him, hear Him, smell Him, touch Him ... our senses may not be activated to His presence.

But His word tells us He's present with every believer.

**1 Corinthians 3:16** Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you?

**Matthew 28:20** teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, **I am with you always**, to the end of the age."

So, if we believe what God has said in His word, we should never allow ourselves to feel abandoned by God. By faith we know He is always present.

The creation of God is another example of applying faith in what God has said to every day living. Evolutionists tell us that random chance, that elusive slime (wherever that came from), and time, all combined over millions of years to produce all that is.

Big Bang theorists tell us that a massive explosion is responsible for all of creations ... (never mind where the matter and force for this explosion came from – it is unexplainable).

Again, there is no way to prove how creation happened. Nobody recorded the event and none of us were present to witness creation. Those who do not believe in the existence of God find themselves believing extremely improbable theories. Those who do believe in God place their faith in what God has said.

**Hebrews 11:3** By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.

Are you willing to believe what God has said in His word? It is impossible to please God without faith.

**Genesis 1:1** In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

**John 1:1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **2** He was in the beginning with God. **3** All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.

**Colossians 1:16** For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him.

**Through faith in what God has revealed in His word we believe:**

- **that God exists**
- **that God is present with His own**

- that Jesus is alive because He arose from the grave and conquered death
- that when we confess our sins to Him and repent, God forgives us
- that God hears us when we pray

**We who follow Jesus believe God's word. We base our lives on Who He has revealed Himself to be in Scripture, what He says about us, and on what He tells us to do.**

### **GOING DEEPER:**

Look up the following scripture verses. Read each one carefully.

What statement of truth is God making in each verse? Write it down.

Then briefly write out whether or not you believe the truth you discovered in each verse.

Genesis 1:1

Hebrews 11:6

Hebrews 11:3

John 17:17

Romans 5:8

Matthew 28:20b

1 Corinthians 3:16