

EASTER FAITH!
Ashes To Easter – Part 7
March 31, 2013

John 20:19-20 (NIV) “On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you!’²⁰ After He said this, He showed them His hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.”

John 20:29 (NIV) “Then Jesus told him, ‘Because you have seen Me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.’ ”

It takes **FAITH** to believe in God.

John 3:16 (NIV) “For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.”

FIVE ACTIONS OF TRUE FAITH

F = FOLLOW Jesus’ example.

John 13:17 (GWT) “... You are blessed whenever you follow My example.”

John 8:12 (NLT) “...I am the light of the world. If you follow Me, you won’t have to walk in the darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life.”

Matthew 7:24 (NLT) “Anyone who listens to My teaching and follows it is wise, like a person who builds a house on solid rock.”

A = ACCEPT God’s grace.

Romans 5:17b (NCV) “Those people who accept God’s full grace and the great gift of being made right with Him will surely have true life... through Jesus Christ.”

I = INVEST your life in God.

2 Corinthians 5:15 (NLT) “He died for everyone so that those who receive His new life will no longer live to please themselves. Instead, they will live to please Christ, who died and was raised for them.”

Matthew 25:29 (NLT) “To those who use well what they are given, even more will be given, and they will have an abundance. But from those who do nothing, even what little they have will be taken away.’ ”

T = TRUST God’s wisdom and strength.

Colossians 2:6 (TLB) “...Just as you trusted Christ to save you, trust Him, too, for each day’s problems; live in vital union with Him.”

James 1:5 (NCV) “But if any of you needs wisdom, you should ask God for it. He is generous and enjoys giving to all people, so He will give you wisdom.”

Philippians 4:13 (GNT) “I have the strength to face all conditions by the power that Christ gives me.”

H = HOLD ON to God’s promises.

Hebrews 6:18 (MSG) “God can’t break His word. And because His word cannot change, the promise is likewise unchangeable. We who have run for our very lives to God have every reason to grab the promised hope with both hands and never let go.”

Romans 8:39b (NLT) “...Nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

1 Peter 1:3b-4 (MSG) “... Because Jesus was raised from the dead, we’ve been given a brand-new life⁴ and have everything to live for, including a future in heaven, and the future starts now!”