

## CHURCH OF THE VALLEY

### UNWAVERING FAITH – TAKING THE SHIELD OF FAITH

APRIL 26, 2020

**Scripture for Sermon: 1 Peter 1:3-7 (NLT)** <sup>3</sup>All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is by his great mercy that we have been born again, because God raised Jesus Christ from the dead. Now we live with great expectation, <sup>4</sup>and we have a priceless inheritance—an inheritance that is kept in heaven for you, pure and undefiled, beyond the reach of change and decay. <sup>5</sup>And through your faith, God is protecting you by his power until you receive this salvation, which is ready to be revealed on the last day for all to see. <sup>6</sup>So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you have to endure many trials for a little while. <sup>7</sup>These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world.

**God allows our faith to be tested** - “A faith that hasn't been **tested can't be trusted.**”

The testing of our faith is the means through which the genuineness of faith is proved and Christian character is developed.

Steps that will help us exhibit Unwavering Faith.

# 1 \_\_\_\_\_

**Ephesians 6:16 (NKJV)** above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.

# 2 \_\_\_\_\_

**Proverbs 30:5 (NKJV)** Every word of God *is* pure; He *is* a shield to those who put their trust in Him.

# 3 \_\_\_\_\_

**Hebrews 10:19-25 (ESV)**

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

## LIFE QUESTIONS?

### **Romans 1:16-17 (NLT)**

<sup>16</sup> For I am not ashamed of this Good News about Christ. It is the power of God at work, saving everyone who believes—the Jew first and also the Gentile. <sup>17</sup> This Good News tells us how God makes us right in his sight. This is accomplished from start to finish by faith. As the Scriptures say, “It is through faith that a righteous person has life.”

- 1) What is “The shield of faith?”
- 2) Are you Grounded in the truth of God’s Word and ready for the attacks of the enemy?
- 3) **1 Peter 4:17 (NLT)** For the time has come for judgment, and it must begin with God’s household. And if judgment begins with us, what terrible fate awaits those who have never obeyed God’s Good News?