



## THE GOSPEL FAITH MISSION INTERNATIONAL

*Pacesetters Assembly, Ogba District Headquarters,  
7, Odekunle Street, Behind County Hospital,  
Ogba Aguda, Lagos*

**TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY**

**13<sup>th</sup> May, 2025**

### **THE SAVING FAITH**

*Main Text: Ephesians 2:8-9*

#### **Introduction**

The Saving Faith we are considering today refers to the belief in Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour, which Leads to salvation. It is the foundation of Christian relationship with God and eternal life. Saving faith is more than mere intellectual assent (agreement); it is what connects believers to the grace of God. (*James2:19*)

***Ephesians 2:8-9:** "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast."*

***Romans 10:9-10:** "If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."*

***John 3:16:** "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."*

#### **1. The Nature (Attributes) of Saving Faith**

1. **Trust in Christ:** Saving faith involves a deep trust in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, believing in His death and resurrection for the forgiveness of sins. ***John 3:16; Ephesians 2:8-9***

The faith acknowledges human inability to achieve salvation through good works.

2. **Repentance:** Saving faith involves a willingness to turn away from sin and towards God, acknowledging the need for change and seeking to live according to His will. (***Acts 20:21***). ***Mark1:15 Acts3:19; Acts2:38.***

Saving faith brings assurance of forgiveness and eternal life.

3. **Assurance of Salvation:** Saving faith brings about a sense of assurance and confidence in one's salvation, founded on God's promises and the work of Christ. ***1John5:12, 13***

4. **Transformative:** Genuine saving faith results in a transformed life, leading to new desires, behaviours, and a commitment to following Christ. ***2Corin. 5:17***

5. **Endurance:** Saving faith perseveres through trials and difficulties, demonstrating a lasting commitment to Christ and His teachings, even amidst challenges. ***Roms8:35, 38,39***

## 2. Repentance and Saving Faith

In the New Testament, faith and repentance are often mentioned together. Repentance complements saving faith. You cannot genuinely have faith in Christ without repenting from sin; they work hand-in-hand. Jesus called people to both believe in Him and repent (*Mark 1:15, Matt4:7; Acts3:19*).

A saving faith is rooted in the understanding that all have sinned and come(fall)short of the glory of God (**Romans 3:23**). This acknowledgment leads to a desire for forgiveness and a change in lifestyle.

Repentance is not just about feeling remorse for sin (**2Corin7:10**) but also involves an active decision to turn to God. This shift is essential for receiving salvation. As indicated in **Acts 20:21**, true repentance involves turning to God and putting faith in Jesus Christ.

While initial repentance is part of coming to faith, it's also an ongoing process in the life of a believer. As Christians grow in their faith, they continually recognize areas of their lives that need to align more closely with God's will. This ongoing repentance reflects a heart that values holiness.

## 3. Grace and Saving Faith

Grace is the free and unearned favour of God, shown to humanity despite our sinfulness. It is God's initiative in reaching out to us.

According to *Eph 2:8-9*, salvation is a gift from God, not something we earn or work for. We cannot earn salvation by doing good works. So, grace makes salvation possible through faith.

*Titus 3:5*: "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us..."

Saving Faith is placing trust in God, believing in His promises, and accepting Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour.

Faith is not just intellectual agreement; it is a heartfelt response to the truth of who God is and what He has done.

Grace is God's initiative to save us, and faith is our response to accept that initiative. We must avoid the misinterpretation that presences of works is required for salvation.

## 5. Good Works and Saving Faith

Salvation is a gift from God, not something we earn or work for. We obtain salvation free by saving faith (*Eph 2:8-9*). The best of our good works without Christ is referred to as filthy before God (*1 Isaiah64:6*)

However, understanding that faith alone in the Lord Jesus saves, genuine faith is never alone; it is accompanied(evidenced) by works (actions). *James 2:17-19,26* highlights that faith without works is dead. Good works (living practically Christlike-*Acts10:38*) are evidences that one possesses saving faith. One must avoid misconception of having saving faith and yet wallow in ungodly acts.

## Conclusion

We have seen in this study today that saving faith is the foundation of relationship with God. It is intertwined with grace, repentance and works(fruits). Without it, no relationship with God is established through abundance of His grace. If you already got saving faith, keep it and grow in it. If you have not got it, get on you kneel, repent of your sinful life and accept Jesus as your personal Lord and Saviour.