



## [Hebrews 11:6](#)

(6) Now without faith *it is* impossible to please *God*. For it is mandatory *for* the one who comes to God to believe *that* He exists, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

*A Faithful Version*

Because [faith](#) is indispensable to a good [relationship with God](#), its importance cannot be overemphasized. But notice the condition in this verse. It does not say that [God](#) is the rewarder of everyone but "of those who *diligently seek* Him." Living faith is direct; it has its foundation in diligently, actively, consistently, zealously seeking Him in study and [prayer](#) and in conforming to His will. Those who are doing these things are encouraged that they will be rewarded. The reward is to find Him. This, in turn, increases faith.

The biblical word "faith" is most synonymous with the English word "trust." "Faith" can be a mere agreement with a cold, hard fact. This is fine as far as it goes, but it loses a great deal of meaning when we consider that this One with whom we are dealing is a warm, dynamic, powerful, loving Personality. Biblical faith, trust, is *firm*. It is faith in full flower, acting consciously and with agreeable feeling - we might call it "conviction."

This faith is not done coldly and calculatedly - simply because a thing is right. It is not done with a "perhaps" or a "maybe," but with [joy](#) and with firm conviction, with a consciousness that one is in agreement with this dynamic and loving personality. We should be aware of our unity with Him just as we are aware of our sense of touch - our strongest sense in terms of evoking emotion: consider a punch in the nose compared to a kiss. But faith, trust, is sensitive in the same way. It is conscious of the things of God; it sees God. In addition, faith not only evokes the hard, cold facts (it has "a remembrance of [truth](#)"), but also responds emotionally to a wonderful, dynamic, gracious, and powerful Personality, who is our Friend.

— John W. Ritenbaugh

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