

A man with long, wavy brown hair is climbing a dark, textured rock face. He is wearing a green long-sleeved shirt, brown pants, and red climbing shoes. He is looking upwards and to the right, focused on his climb. The background is a blurred landscape of green trees and hills.

Expecting the Best

faith *is...*

Hebrews 11:6 (niv)

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

faith *is...*

Hebrews 11:1 (niv)

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

(gw) Faith assures us of things we expect...

faith *is...*

EXPECTING THE BEST:

is the confident assurance that God knows what is the best for us because He loves us.

faith *is...*

Psalms 32:8 (nlt)

I will guide you along the best pathway for your life. I'll advise you and watch over you.

We learn three things about how David expected the best from God.

faith *is...*

1. When we expect the best from God it honours Him.

1 Samuel 17:46 (niv)

This day the Lord will hand you over to me, and I'll strike you down ... and the whole world will know that there is a God!

faith *is...*

2. When we expect the best from God we increase our ability in life.

1 Samuel 17:49 (nlt)

David hurled a stone from his sling and hit the Philistine in the forehead. The stone sank in, and Goliath stumbled and fell face downward to the ground.

faith *is...*

3. When we expect the best from God we encourage others.

1 Samuel 17:52 (nlt)

Then the Israelites gave a great shout of triumph and rushed after the Philistines, chasing them as far as Gath.

faith *is...*

1. Spend quality time with God regularly.

David said: *In the morning, LORD, you hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before you and wait in expectation.*

Psalms 5:3

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Psalms 34:9 (msg)

*Worship God if you want the best; worship
opens doors to all his goodness.*

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2. Think on God's promises throughout the day.

Psalms 119:11 (msg)

*I've banked your promises
in the vault of my heart...*

faith *is...*

Philippians 4:8 (msg)

You'll do best by filling your minds and meditating on things true, noble, reputable, authentic, compelling, gracious—the best, not the worst; the beautiful, not the ugly...

Hebrews 10:23 (msg)

Let's keep a firm grip on the promises that keep us going. He always keeps His Word.

faith *is...*

3. Trust in God's love when things look bad.

Psalms 42:11 (tlb)

O my soul, don't be discouraged. Don't be upset. Expect God to act! For I know that I shall again have plenty of reason to praise him for all that he will do.

faith *is...*

Hebrews 12:10 (msg)

While we were children, our parents did what seemed best to them. But God is doing what is best for us, training us to live God's holy best.

Psalms 91:14 (msg)

*I'll get you out of any trouble.
I'll give you the best of care if you'll
only get to know and trust me.*

faith *is...*

We need to spend time with other positive believers when things are not going so good.

Hebrews 10:25 (nlt)

And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another...

faith *is...*

We need to associate with and attach ourselves to other people of positive faith.

1 Corinthians 15:33 (niv)

Do not be misled:

"Bad company corrupts good character."

faith *is...*

Psalm 1:1 (niv)

Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers.

faith *is...*

If we want to be a person of great faith, then we need to find some people who build into our life additional faith, who help us grow to expect the best.

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