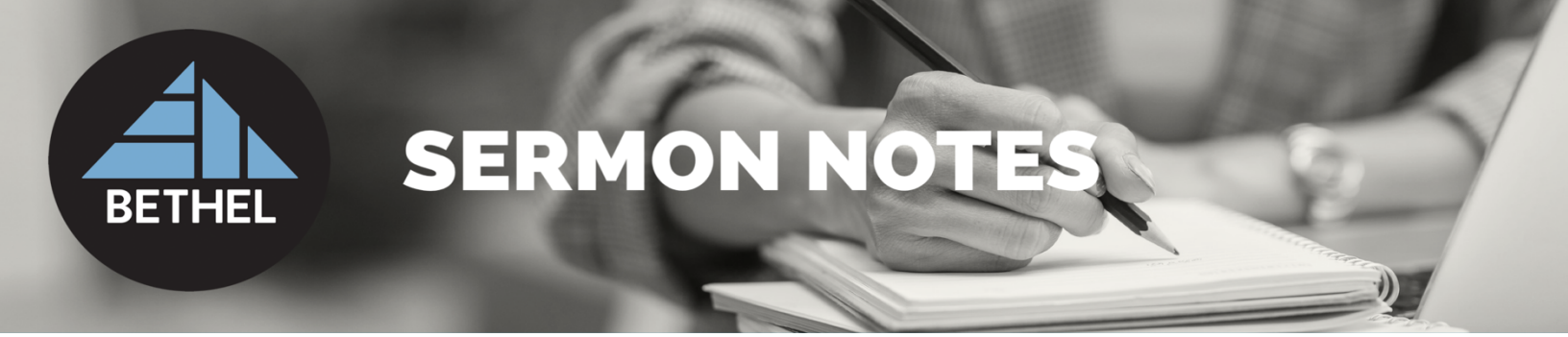
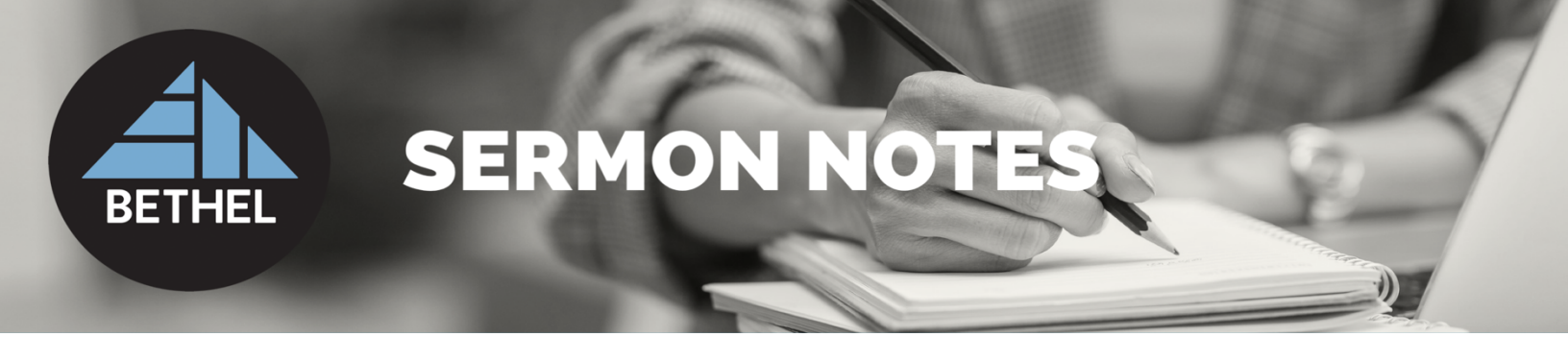


FAITH THAT GROWS – PASTOR MATHIAS	DECEMBER 29th
Matthew 17:15-20 **Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and suffers severely; for he often falls into the fire and often into the water. 16 So I brought him to Your disciples, but they could not cure him." 17 Then Jesus answered and said, "O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him here to Me." 18 And Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of him; and the child was cured from that very hour. 19 Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not cast it out?" 20 So Jesus said to them, "Because of your unbelief; for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.** **1. Truth About Faith** **Faith Is the Basis of Salvation** **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.** **Faith Pleases God** **Hebrews 11:6: But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.**	**KEY POINTS:**



Faith Sustains Us Through Challenges

Isaiah 40:31: But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength."

2 Corinthians 5:7: "For we walk by faith, not by sight.

Faith Brings Spiritual Growth

Romans 10:17: So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Faith Guides Our Actions

James 2:17: Faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

Faith Offers Victory

1 John 5:4: For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.

Faith Gives Eternal Perspective

Hebrews 11:1: Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

2. What Faith Is and What It Is Not

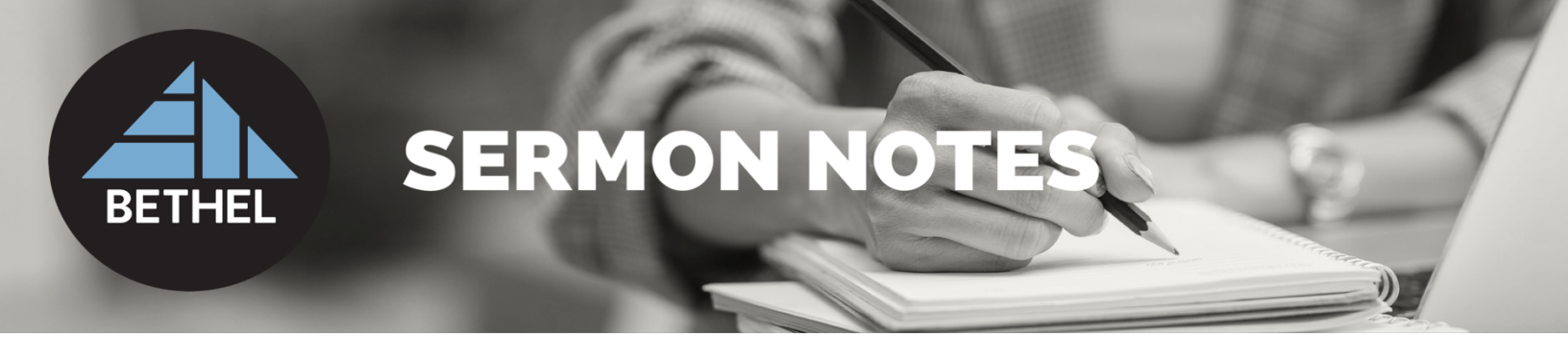
Belief

Defined as intellectual acknowledgment or acceptance that something is true.

Does not necessarily involve trust or action.

Often based on knowledge, evidence, or reasoning.

NOTES:



Faith

Is Defined as deeper trust and reliance on someone or something, often accompanied by action.

Involves trust, obedience, and relationship.

Demonstrated through actions and decisions.

Rooted in personal experience and conviction.

James 2:19-20: You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble! But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead?

3. Why Didn't the Mountain Move?

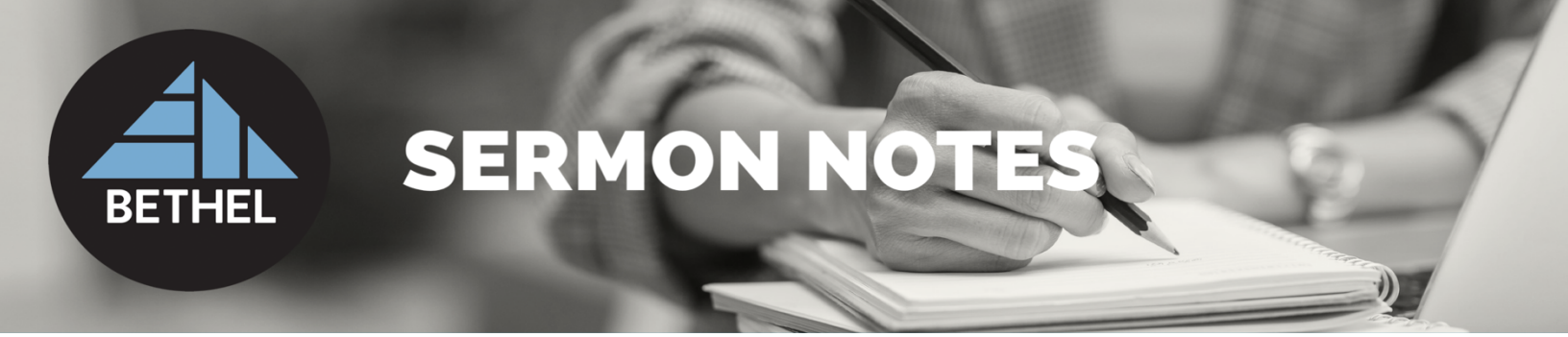
Faith Needs a Substance

Hebrews 11:1 says, Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Matthew 17:20, "Nothing will be impossible for you,

Matthew 14:25-33

Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. 26 When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. "It's a ghost," they said, and cried out in fear. 27 But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid." 28 "Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water." 29 "Come," he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. 30 But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!" 31



Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?" 32 And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. 33 Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

4. Where Does Faith Come From?

Romans 10:17: So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

5. How to Grow in Faith

Colossians 2:6-7: As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving.

ACTION STEPS:

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