

FAITHFULNESS/STABILITY

SOH - Lesson 5

I. DEFINITIONS

A. Faithfulness

1. Hebrew - firmness, fidelity, steady, stability
2. Greek - trustworthy, that which can be relied upon

B. Stability - Webster

1. steadiness; firmness; strength to stand without being moved or overthrown
2. steadiness or firmness of character; firmness of resolution or purpose

C. Opposites: fickleness, irresolution or inconstancy.

1. Faithfulness is consistency.
2. Faithfulness is being true to one's self.
3. Faithfulness is following through on an agreement.
4. Faithfulness is having God-like character.
5. Faithfulness is being true to one's commitment.
6. Faithfulness is being accountable.
7. Faithfulness is a bi-product of faith.
 - a. Just like butter is a bi-product of milk.
 - b. Hebrews 11:6a. But without faith it is impossible to please Him: (God):
 - c. So without faithfulness it is impossible to please God as well.
8. Faithfulness is from the heart.
9. Faithfulness is demonstrated in stability.
10. Faithfulness comes from the heart and is manifested in stability.
11. Faithfulness is inward, stability is outward.

II. THE CHARACTERISTICS OF FAITHFULNESS:

Matthew 25:14-30

A. Proverbs 11:13 A talebearer revealeth secrets: but he that is of a faithful spirit concealeth the matter.

1. The faithful know how to shut their mouths.

B. Proverbs 13:17 A wicked messenger falleth into mischief: but a faithful ambassador is health.

1. The faithful knows how to minister healing and strength.

C. Proverbs 14:5 A faithful witness will not lie: but a false witness will utter lies.

1. The faithful always speak the truth.

D. Proverbs 20:6 Most men will proclaim everyone his own goodness: but a faithful man who can find?

1. The faithful are humble.

E. Proverbs 25:13 As the cold of snow in the time of harvest, so is a faithful messenger to

them that send him: for he refresheth the soul of his masters.

1. The faithful are a **refreshing to those whom they serve.**

F. Proverbs 28:20a A faithful man shall abound with blessings:...

1. **The faithful are blessed.**

G. Luke 12:42-48

1. The faithful **take care of business.**

H. Matthew 25:23

1. The faithful **pay attention to the little things.**

III. THE PROCESS OF FAITHFULNESS:

A. First understand faithfulness is **required** for your **future.**

If you are going to have a **future** you must be **faithful now.**

B. Faithfulness must **begin** with **little things.**

1. Zechariah 4:10

2. Matthew 25:23

C. Faithfulness must be **proven.**

1. II Cor. 8:8, II Cor. 13:5, Galatians 6:4, II Cor. 8:22, **I Timothy 3:10**, Nehemiah 9:8

D. Faithfulness **founds** equals **increase.**

1. I Cor. 4:2, I Tim. 3:10, Nehemiah 9:8

Lawrence Bell said, "Show me a man or a woman who cannot be bothered to do little things, I'll show you a man or a woman who cannot be trusted to do big things."

IV. CONCLUSION:

A. Faithfulness is **an issue of the heart.**

B. Faithfulness is **required of managers.**

C. Faithfulness **causes increase.**

D. Faithfulness **manifests stability**
(unfaithful, unstable).

E. Faithfulness **likes accountability.**

F. God uses faithfulness **like a crowbar.**