WOAC On Air –29 February 2024

Episode 85

Inspiration brought to you by WOAC on Air

Topic: The benefits of the fruit of the Spirit -Part 4 (self-control and faithfulness)

Part 1 - Episode 82 - Love - Fruit of the Spirit. WOAC highlighted that all the other fruits are birthed from the Love of God 1 Cor 13.7 Love believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things."

Part 2 - Episode 83 Joy,Peace, Gentleness - Fruits of the Spirit. WOAC highlighted the importance of Abiding in the vine - John 15:4-9 Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.

Part 3 - Episode 84 - Goodness, Kindness, Patience - Fruits of the Spirit. WOAC highlighted Dying to self - Why do we need to die to self?

Part 4 - Episode 85 - WOAC presents Self-Control, Faithfulness - Fruits of the Spirit.

Programme Outline:

1. Question and Answer

Women of Africa Care Air crew, Which of the fruits have you found a challenge in experiencing and how are addressing it?

Shinaaz, Erika - expressed Self Control

Angelina expressed Faithfulness

Faithfulness - 1 John 5 Who is it that overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

Rev 12.11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death

Gal 5.22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23[g]gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. 24And those *who are* Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. 26Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

1 Cor 2.14 The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness, and cannot understand them because they are discerned only

2. About Self Control and Faithfulness

(the following information relating to self-control and faithfulness is extracted from https://biblehub.com/ study tool)

2.1 Self Control Transliteration: egkrateia

Phonetic Spelling: (eng-krat'-i-ah)

Definition: mastery, self-control

Usage: self-mastery, self-restraint, self-control, continence.

2.2 Faithfulness - Transliteration: pistis
Phonetic Spelling: (pis'-tis)
Definition: faith, faithfulness
Usage: faith, belief, trust, confidence; fidelity, faithfulness.

Faith (4102/*pistis*) is always a *gift from God*, and *never* something that can be produced by people. In short, 4102/*pistis* ("faith") for the believer is "God's *divine persuasion*" – and therefore distinct from human belief (confidence), yet involving it. The Lord continuously *births faith* in the yielded believer so they can know what He prefers, i.e. the *persuasion of His will* (1 Jn 5:4).

Faith (4102/*pistis*) is also used *collectively* – of all the times God has revealed (given the *persuasion* of) His will, which includes the full *revelation of Scripture* (Jude 3). Indeed, God the Lord *guarantees* that all of this revelation will come to pass! Compare Mt 5:18 with 2 Tim 3:16.]

1. The root of 4102/*pistis* ("faith") is 3982/*peithô* ("to persuade, be persuaded") which supplies the *core-meaning* of faith ("*divine persuasion*"). It is God's warranty that guarantees the fulfillment of the revelation He births within the receptive believer (cf. 1 Jn 5:4 with Heb 11:1).

Faith (4102/*pistis*) is always *received from God,* and *never* generated by us.

Ro 12:3: "For through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, *as God has allotted to each a measure of faith* (4102/*pistis*)" (*NASU*).

Eph 2:8,9: " For by grace you have been saved through *faith* (4102/*pistis*); and that not of yourselves, it is *the gift of God*; [9]not as a result of works, so that no one may boast" (*NASU*).

Gal 5:22,23: "[22]But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace,

patience, kindness, goodness, *faith* (4102/*pistis*), [23]gentleness,

self-control; against such things there is no law."

2 Thes 1:11: "To this end (glorification) – indeed each time we pray about (*peri*) you for the purpose (*hin*) of our God counting you worthy of the call – even that He may fulfill (His) every good-pleasure that comes from (His) goodness *and work of faith*, in (His) ability."

But the righteous will live in his *faith*" (= 4102/*pistis*, "faith *from* the Lord").

More on what faith is . . . and isn't from biblehub study tool

1. In Scripture, *faith* and *belief* are not exactly the same. Faith always comes from God and involves His revelation therefore *faith* is *beyond belief*!
2. Faith *is* God's work; faith is *never* the work of people. We cannot produce faith ourselves, nor can we "drum it up at will." Rather, faith comes as Christ speaks His *rhçma*-word within (see Ro 10:17, Gk text).
3. In all of Scripture, only the term *faith* is ever used in the following way: Ro 14:23: Whatever is not of *faith* (4102/*pistis*) is *sin*." Heb 11:6: "And *without faith* (4102/*pistis*) *it is impossible to please God.*