



2026 2Q Growing in a Relationship with God Lesson 8 Having Faith

by Time Jennings (announcements last page)

SABBATH

Read the first paragraph,

- Someone once said, “Faith is like WiFi. It’s invisible, but it has the power to connect you to what you need.” No doubt: without faith, there would be no relationship with God. *Adult SS Guide 2nd Q 2026, Growing in a Relationship with God*, p. 64.

There is no doubt that when we enter into a saving relationship with God, with Jesus, we have faith, we have trust. But is it true that without faith there would be no *relationship* with God? –It all depends on what one means by relationship.

The reason I ask this question is because I think people sometimes confuse faith and relationship and assume that a relationship means a “saving relationship.” I have heard many people say that all people need is a relationship with Jesus, that is not quite true. They do need a relation with Jesus, but that relationship is supposed to cause something to happen inside of them, the relationship is supposed to result in change within them—which is what? Faith or trust to be exercised in Jesus. And I am concerned that people may miss this critical point.

Relationship alone is not enough, and a person may have a personal relationship with Jesus without having faith in Jesus—consider Lucifer in heaven. Did he have a personal relationship with Jesus and did his faith grow? And what about Judas? Did Judas have a personal relationship with Jesus and did that result in saving faith in Judas?

How could Lucifer in heaven not have faith in Jesus? Because Lucifer became infatuated with self, and made, in his own mind, his own self supreme—but what did this do in reality? God is the only infinite, immortal, and perfect being the source of all truth, the Creator and Sustainer of reality. When Lucifer took his adoration, loyalty, worship, focus, submission of heart off of God and placed it on self, it was unavoidable that he would begin encoding errors, falsehoods into his own mind, corrupting his own systems, ultimately to the point of becoming delusional and thinking he was equal with God.

The relationship with Jesus didn’t result in solidifying faith in Lucifer because Lucifer didn’t allow that relationship, and the truth it revealed, to be supreme and instead prioritized falsehood about self, which devalued the supremacy of Christ and rather than faith, he lost faith in Jesus.

What about Judas? He had a relationship with Jesus that saw Jesus as an object for his own advancement. Judas saw power in Jesus and Judas craved power and position. The truth of Christ’s

character of love, His kingdom of truth and love that operates in hearts and minds, Judas did not value, thus he, like Lucifer, prioritized his own opinions, his own wants, desires, and sought to use Jesus for his own ends. He had a relationship, but not one in which he trusted Jesus more than self.

What about today? Can people have a relationship with God or Jesus that does not lead to salvation? How could that happen?

- They may think they are trusting and worshiping Jesus when they have accepted a false Christ in His place—as many have already done through history.
- They may believe they are sinners and Jesus is the Messiah, but they don't trust the Father and thus seek to use Jesus and what Jesus has done to hide and protect them from the Father. They might claim the blood payment of Jesus to pay a penalty so the Father won't kill them. They might have faith in Jesus' robe of righteousness that covers over their wicked hearts so the Father will legally proclaim them righteous while they in reality are unrighteous. And why are they unrighteous? Because they don't really have faith in Jesus, or the Father, they have faith in the legal mechanics that they cling to designed to hide and protect them from the Father.

But the sad reality is this: the very false legal theology they hold to that they think is hiding their sinfulness from the Father, actually hides God from them. They don't know the Father, and life eternal is knowing God—but they don't, and therefore they keep their hearts closed in fear, rather than opening in love and trust and praying like David, “search me and see the wicked way in me, create in me a clean heart O God.”

This is the reality of saving faith, that our faith is in God, in Christ, in the Holy Spirit—we actually trust them because we know them, not know about them, but know them in truth. And when we know them, we open the heart and surrender, and are reborn with a new heart and right spirit and enter an eternal journey of growth in intimacy, maturity, and wisdom.

In the second paragraph it states,

- For truly, “faith shows the reality of what we hope for; it is the evidence of things we cannot see” (Heb. 11:1, NLT). It's not something we can generate by ourselves, for “God has dealt to each one a measure of faith” (Rom. 12:3, NKJV). Faith is a gift of God (Eph. 2:8, 9), and even then, our faith in God is possible only because of what God is already doing in and for us. *Adult SS Guide 2nd Q 2026, Growing in a Relationship with God, p. 64.*

First let's do a quick review of the Hebrews 11:1 text:

- “Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” Hebrews 11:1 NKJV.

In Hebrews 11:1, the Greek word translated as “substance” is hypostasis. The first part of the word (sub) is from the Greek hypo and means low or under, as in hypoglycemia (low blood sugar) or hypotension (low blood pressure). The last part of the word (stance) is from the Greek stasis and

means standing. This Greek word (hypostasis) was translated into a Latin-based word (substance); the first half, sub, means low or under, as in subway or subterranean; the last half, stance, means standing.

Translated into modern English, faith is our “understanding of things hoped for.” This understanding has two meanings, both of which apply to our faith: 1) an understanding *of* God, and 2) an understanding *with* God.

Saving faith is a trust agreement between the sinner and God. It is a bond of intelligent, functional understanding—loyalty, devotion, trust, and confidence in God that results in real action and real change in the sinner.

And then in that trust relationship with God, we understand that He is trustworthy, that we have a terminal sin condition that we cannot fix or cure, and therefore we enter into a new **understanding** *with* God, an agreement with God, some call this a covenant with God.

This understanding *with* God is a covenant transaction—not a legal transaction. It is like the marriage covenant. When two people get married (as God designed, not as the state legally encodes), they commit to be faithful, loyal, and devoted to one another, forsaking all previous and other potential love-interests. They commit to go to each other and work together through difficulties, to overcome obstacles together, and to not betray the best interests of the other.

This type of trust, covenant relationship of faith, is only possible if we know God personally, not know about Him.

What about the statement that God gives every person a measure of faith? That is one translation of the verse, but not the most common. Here is the NIV:

- Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you. Romans 12:3 NIV84.

Most translations describe the measure of faith God has given, rather than God giving everyone a measure of faith. The Romans context is very specifically written to believers who have surrendered themselves to Christ and are to present themselves as living sacrifices in God’s service.

So Paul is saying that all the *believers* have received a measure of faith from God.

God is working on every heart and mind, the Holy Spirit is seeking to bring all to saving faith in God, through infinite means. And that is because every person has the *capacity* and *ability* to exercise faith—and everyone does exercise faith in something. Every person has faith in something or someone, whether it be God or the scientific method, money, power, the government, their church, the legal rules and mechanics of law keeping etc. Everyone has the ability to exercise faith and everyone does to some point.

However, if people exercise faith in that which is untrustworthy, they will be disappointed, let down, get hurt and over time they become disillusioned, hopeless, and nihilistic, nothing matters, why bother.

SUNDAY

The lesson title is “Just Give Me a Sign” what are your thoughts about this title?

- Then some of the Pharisees and teachers of the law said to him, “Teacher, we want to see a miraculous sign from you.” He answered, “A wicked and adulterous generation asks for a miraculous sign! But none will be given it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of a huge fish, so the Son of Man will be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. The men of Nineveh will stand up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it; for they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and now one greater than Jonah is here. The Queen of the South will rise at the judgment with this generation and condemn it; for she came from the ends of the earth to listen to Solomon’s wisdom, and now one greater than Solomon is here. Matthew 12:38-42 NIV84.

What is going on here?

What did the Pharisees want? A display of might and power, something to wow the senses—what did Jesus offer? Truth, evidence, reality.

What is it God wants from us? He wants our understanding agreement, our trust, our love, our loyalty, devotion, confidence in Him, that we know Him and know He is trustworthy and therefore trust Him.

Can God get any of that with displays of might and power? Might and power get attention, but don’t prove trustworthiness, don’t prove love, establish trust.

The might and power way is the way of systems that don’t have truth and love. But does that mean God never intervenes and provides signs, wonders, or miracles?

- Gideon got encouraged
- Pharaoh became ever more hardened
- The children of Israel became afraid and disgruntled
- Saul of Tarsus became humbled and willing to listen and learn
- The new in faith became hopeful and encouraged

What happened when Jesus fed the thousands, healed the blind, lepers, raised the dead—what impact did it have? The leaders were not converted, and plotted to kill Him?

Why? Because physical might and power, miracles, do not provide evidence of trustworthiness—it all depends on how one understands the events. And that requires truth and love and that is what wins to trust.

Thus Jesus tells them they will be given evidence of prophecy fulfilled, of His sinless life, of His victory over death, and the Ninevites will condemn them because the Ninevites heard truth and responded to truth alone, but the Pharisees had truth along with multiple signs but they still rejected the truth.

Read fifth paragraph,

- “These signs were not what the Jews needed. No mere external evidence could benefit them. What they needed was not intellectual enlightenment, but spiritual renovation.”—Ellen G. White, *The Desire of Ages*, p. 406. Could it be that we, too, need spiritual renovation—a genuine, real, moment-by-moment walk with God? Perhaps we actually don’t need a sign, because we have a lot of knowledge at our fingertips, especially from our own Bibles. *Adult SS Guide 2nd Q 2026, Growing in a Relationship with God*, p. 65.

What is spiritual renovation? How would you describe it?

Spiritual renovation is a fundamental change in the animating motivational energy that drives us to action. We are born driven by fear and selfishness inherited from Adam and we must be reborn with the Spirit of truth and love. Without this rebirth experience, nothing else matters.

MONDAY

Read first paragraph,

- Just because we call ourselves followers of Jesus doesn’t automatically mean our faith is strong. In fact, some people claimed to believe, but Jesus discerned what was really in their hearts (John 2:23–25). *Adult SS Guide 2nd Q 2026, Growing in a Relationship with God*, p. 66.

How could someone claim to believe in Jesus and not have strong faith?

I find this all the time, many people who have been raised in various Christian traditions, believe in the Bible, believe in Jesus—but they struggle to trust Him, why?

Because of a variety of things they have been taught about God and Jesus that causes distrust, the beliefs themselves cause them fear of God rather than trust in God.

Can you think of any?

- God will kill you if you don’t love and trust Him?

- God will kill you if you don't offer Him the blood of a human sacrifice?
- God is required by His holiness and law to kill the wicked?
- God is too holy to tolerate our wickedness, it offends and upset Him.
- God is keeping a legal record of all your sin crimes and if you don't get them legally paid for, if just one remains on the books of heaven, God will torture and kill you.

Could you trust a doctor who had a real cure for whatever is wrong with you, but who you also believed if you missed a dose, or just didn't like the side effects and chose to stop the treatment, then the doctor would torture and kill you?

Many people have what they call faith in Jesus for their salvation, for eternal life, but not faith in Him for living their life today.

They will proclaim their faith, their being saved, their having accepted Christ as their Savior and Lord, but they live in fear, fear of all kinds of things, fear of loneliness, abandonment, financial ruin, rejection, and the future.

Notice I said they LIVE in fear, not that they are tempted by fear, experience various fear inducing events, or struggle against various fears and bring them to Jesus and in faith wrestle through. No, I am talking about people consumed by worry and fear, and who don't wrestle through them with Christ. And typically the things they worry about are not something they have authority over, like the climate, the global economy, what others think of them, what the future holds, what others will do.

They find themselves in situations and have expectations of how it should go and when things are not going according to their own expectations, they begin to doubt, worry, get distressed, begin calculating, scanning, scheming to get life back on the track they think it should be on, and they get more distressed.

We have all struggled with this and I have struggled with this in my life. For me, it is often more so in the little things than the big things. When life has hit me with big stressors I have always gone to Jesus, wrestling out what He has for me at that stage in my life. Where I have found my biggest struggle, is in the little things that are not going the way I thought they should go—and therefore get tricked into thinking I am in control of something I am not actually in control of.

Traffic that is delaying me for an appointment despite my leaving on time.

Here is an example that used to really bother me, but the Lord has brought me over the same ground multiple times to give me opportunity for victory, and I will say I have found peace on this now and don't have frustration like I used to. I trust the Lord with it, but let's see if you can relate:

I am the keynote speaker at a church and for Sabbath morning they have allotted just the right time for my presentation. Then, they schedule children's story before my program, which is slotted for 5 minutes, but the storyteller goes long, 10, 15, 20 minutes. This used to really bother me, but I learned I needed to trust Jesus with this. He is in charge of the future, how things unfold, He foreknew all of this

and prepared for it. But this kind of stuff was not the kind of stuff I was taught I was supposed to trust Jesus with, but I have found it is the little things like this that build a daily abiding confidence and peace.

Read fourth paragraph,

- Though the Holy Spirit prompts us to believe, the enemy of souls wants us to doubt or dismiss God's involvement in our lives. "The unbelief which is cherished in the soul has a bewitching power. The seeds of doubt that they have been sowing will produce their harvest but they must continue to dig up every root of unbelief. When these poisonous plants are pulled up, they cease to grow for want of nourishment in word and action. The soul must have the precious plants of faith and love put in the soil of the heart and enthroned there."—Ellen G. White, *Faith and Works*, p. 17. *Adult SS Guide 2nd Q 2026, Growing in a Relationship with God*, p. 66.

Are there any doubts with which you have struggled?

First there is a difference between doubting God, and doubting whether a certain Bible passage means this or that, or doubting a certain doctrine. The Holy Spirit, who is the Spirit of Truth, will bring truths to our minds that will expose error and therefore every false idea we have will at some point be called into question, meaning, we will have doubts about whether that idea, belief, doctrine is correct or not as we follow the Spirit of truth into increasing truth and thereby replace the old idea.

So don't confuse doubt about the things that are objectively in error, or even yet not fully understood—God is infinite and there are many **things** we might have doubts about—but that is different than doubt in God.

Does anyone have questions or concerns that have raised for them doubts about God? Or do you know anyone who has doubts about God and they have shared why?

What are reasons people report for their doubts about God?

And it seems there are different types of doubts—doubts about whether God is even real. I have had patients who have this doubt. And then the doubt of whether God is good.

The reason for this is that these are Satan's two primary false positions:

Position one is God is not real, you can be your own god. In heaven, he claimed that position, that he should rise up and be god.

But, this is not reality and reality always intrudes and we realize we cannot be god, even if we arrogantly want to be. And that leads to Satan's other lie, sure there is God, but He can't be trusted. He is an abuser, who makes up rules and punishes anyone who has a free thought, anyone who wants to do something He hasn't authorized, well, it is get in line or get killed. So, sure believe that God is real, but you better not trust Him, you better get a friend to protect you and hide you from Him.

What destroys both of Satan's lies is the special message of the 3 angels, the message of returning to worship God as Creator, understanding His laws are design laws, that God is love, God is truth, that all reality is built and sustained by God upon the laws of truth, love, liberty. And that God has given real freedom to break away from His laws, the laws of health, but that freedom to act contrary to the laws of health, does not change God or the laws of health, it only damages the deviant, introducing error, decay, corruption, ultimately leading to disintegration and death, unless healed by our Creator. And God provides healing, restoration, recreation, regeneration, through Jesus Christ.

This is the message, to stop judging God to be like Satan has made Him out to be, to embrace the eternal good news about God, and give Him glory by revealing Him in truth, as Jesus revealed, for today, right now, is the hour in human history when God is to be judged—it is the final message to lighten the world, and in that light of God's true character as Creator, the one who made the heavens earth and sea judgment happens, just as Jesus said:

- “For **God so loved the world** that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, **God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world**, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those **who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already**, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And **this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world**, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. John 3:16–19 NRSV.

This is reality—God is Reality—the Creator, the Sustainer, and Adam and Eve corrupted themselves and are in a terminal condition that without intervention from God will result in disintegration and death.

God loved us too much to let that happen so God sent Jesus to intervene and fix what Adam did to this species. We are offered free remedy through Jesus if we trust Him, we are reborn with a sinless Spirit, the very sinless life, animating spirit of Christ, so that it is no longer our terminal, fear and selfish infected spirit animating us, but the Spirit of Christ that gives us life. We are in reality new creatures in Christ. We are not condemned for having this condition, we are condemned already and remain so if we refuse His free healing, which comes from truth leading to trust.

Imagine and HIV infected man and woman having a baby born HIV infected—what did the baby do wrong? Nothing, but it has a condition that will result in death if not cured. Are they guilty for their condition? No, but what if free remedy is offered and they refuse it? They are condemned already because they are terminal; they are condemned by their terminal condition and stay that way if they refuse remedy.

The truth, the light of heaven, that restores trust is the healing cure and if we refuse it we are condemned already. And this is the judgment,

- Jesus said, “For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind.” John 9:39 NIV84.

What is the judgment? Light, truth, revelation of reality so all people can choose, those who respond to the light see those who reject the light become every more blind, delusional.

- Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. But I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself.” John 12:31–32 NIV84.

What is the judgment of this world? The revelation of God’s true character of love and the exposing of Satan as the murderer from the beginning. The truth is exposed for all to see and people have to choose what God do they worship and prefer...

This is the final message of mercy to the world—the truth about God as Creator that calls all people to stop judging Him as Satan has made Him out to be and judge Him in truth, which requires rejecting the imposed law lie.

God is raising up people who are worshiping Him as Creator, the message will go forward and God’s people in every institution who have eyes to see and ears to hear will come out of that mental enslavement and be free in Christ.

The paragraph we read describes “seeds” of doubt, “sowing,” “producing a harvest,” “digging up every root” and this is a very powerful metaphor of the human brain.

As we choose what we believe, that belief gets encoded into the substructure of the neurons, into the tubulin molecules, this would be analogous to the soil, under the surface, where these ideas germinate and change the motivation, energy, drive, intention, understandings, values, and lead to changes in behavior, which cause the neurons to begin growing and pruning based on the new thoughts and feelings. Thus, the brain neurons, dendrites, axons, look very much like the roots in a plant and grow based on what is fed them and how they are watered, with what ideas, intention, motivation, energy. Stop firing the circuit, change the belief, engage in something new with new understanding and old habits prune out and new ones wire in, either good or bad.

TUESDAY

The title for the day is “Faith is Not a Feeling” what are your thoughts about this title?

Have you ever had people struggle with this concept, believing that faith is a feeling?

Why is it a dangerous thing to confuse feelings and faith?

Because it is through feelings that we are tempted, James 1. The devil can bring upon people strong feelings.

Faith is the confidence or trust we have based on reality, on evidence, on experience, on the knowledge of the person in whom we have placed our faith, independent of our feelings.

If our faith is based upon strong feelings, going to religious programs which are designed to stir powerful feelings, but which do not encode reality-based truths into the brain, then when those feelings fade the person begins to doubt and seeks another emotional fix.

When our faith is grounded in reality, in truth, then when our feelings lead us into temptation, like Jesus experienced in Gethsemane, when He felt abandoned by His Father, He could exercise His faith, His confidence in His knowledge of God that was independent of what He was feeling. This is the faith we are to have, but it is the fruit of reality, of experience, of truth, the truths of who God is encoded, and the truths of our experiences with God.

In fact, it is when feelings are the worse, when we feel the darkest moments, most distressed, most alone, that we need to exercise faith, to say, that “despite how I feel I know that God is good and I will trust Him.”

Read third paragraph,

- We must first understand that faith is not a material thing; it’s a human response prompted by the Holy Spirit. God is the gracious initiator, who, through the Holy Spirit, draws us to Himself when we allow Him to do so (Jer. 31:3). We’re saved by grace, through faith, which is a response to God’s grace given to us through Jesus’ death. We are saved because we believe in God as a result of His grace. This lies at the heart of having a relationship with Him. *Adult SS Guide 2nd Q 2026, Growing in a Relationship with God*, p. 67.

This is well said, faith is not physical, material, therefore it cannot be achieved through physical means, through might and power, that is why God said not by might nor by power by my Spirit—which is truth and love, which we are freely to evaluate and choose and in that choosing we encode truth and love into our brains and our spirits change to the point of trust and then we are reborn through our surrender.

Understand this, what overcomes fear is God’s love, and that love is experienced when we trust. So we are tempted when we experience fear and anxiety that would cause us to doubt and distrust and try to save self. It is in that moment of fear that we are to turn to God in trust, like the three worthies on the plane of Dura.

What fear causes is for us to doubt—not necessarily God’s existence, or even God’s overall goodness, but to doubt whether God has us, whether we can trust God with how it turns out, thus we get tempted to resolve our own fear through our own actions.

WEDNESDAY

The lesson points us again to Hebrews 11 and asks us to review the examples of faith cited there—what do you think? Any examples particularly striking?

- By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God’s command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible. Hebrews 11:3 NIV84

The lesson then asks,

- Read verse 3 again, about God and Creation. Why, in many ways, should the existence of the Creator God be the easiest thing to accept on faith? *Adult SS Guide 2nd Q 2026, Growing in a Relationship with God*, p. 68.

Why do we believe God is Creator? Is it only because the Bible says so?

Or is it because all the evidence we can evaluate support it?

When you have experience with someone who has always told you the truth, everything they told you always turns out to be correct, never once have they made a mistake, and you know they love you so much they would die for you, what happens when they tell you something you don’t yet have evidence for? Do you doubt them or believe them?

And when you believe them do you stop thinking, stop observing, stop experiencing reality, or do you continue to learn, assimilate, update new life experiences and when evidences do support what you were told previously, do you have less faith or more?

God never asks us to believe without giving us sufficient evidence upon which to base our faith, His existence, reliability, trustworthiness, all with evidence that appeals to the reason. Yet every mystery of the universe or the Bible has not been revealed and there will be plenty of unknowns for people to get caught up on and if they have the desire, to doubt about.

What protects from this is to establish core truths, core realities, that are reliable and differentiate those from the ones that are interesting, but not core.

For instance, the existence of God is core, and His trustworthiness, His character of love and truth are core. Our belief, faith, and trust in Him is to be established upon the evidences He has revealed in Scripture, science/nature, and our experiences. And when we have that confidence we cannot be shaken from it. Then when the questions come for which we don’t have an answer, it is okay to say—I don’t know the answer to that, but what I do know is God exists, He is good, He is love, and one day I will get the answer to that question, I trust God, because of what I do know about Him, I can wait until He provides the evidence to answer that question. That answer may come during this life, but if not, it will come in the hereafter.

The lesson suggests we should ask God to increase our faith—how does God do this?

By providing us evidence of His trustworthiness, His goodness, His love and His will for us that is sufficient for us to actually trust Him and then allowing events to unfold that requires us to choose to trust Him. It is the law of exertion, if you want something to get stronger you must exercise it, because if you don't use it you lose it. If you want stronger math ability you must work problems, better musical skill practice your instrument, stronger faith requires situations in which we exercise faith.

Sometimes when we exercise our faith we get immediate and powerful answers, waters part, problems resolve, miracles happen—but other times, and perhaps the greater examples of faith are when the answer is silence like Job, who despite all the harm said, “even if God were the one to slay me, yet would I trust Him.”

The lesson differentiates questions and doubts—what is the difference between a question and a doubt?

I have had many patients over the years who have been raised in churches that taught them that if they ask questions it is evidence of doubt, of lack of faith. That God has said it that is settles it, that's all there is to it, so they are afraid to ask questions because they believe it means doubt. What would you say to them?

THURSDAY

The lesson asks us to read Revelation 14:12 and answer the question what the faith of Jesus means:

- Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. Revelation 14:12 NKJV.

What does the faith of Jesus mean?

The text can be translated either “have the faith of Jesus” or have faith “in Jesus.” Does it make a difference or is it basically the same?

To have faith in Jesus means we trust Him, and if we trust Him then we accept what He taught that He and the Father are one, and that the Father is for us and doesn't need anything done to Him to save us, but sent Jesus as His agent to provide salvation for us, thus our faith in Jesus leads us to reconciliation and unity with the Father. Or if we have the faith of Jesus, Jesus exercised constant faith and trust in His Father, and if we have that faith we will be in unity and trust with the Father and will not need anyone in between because we will experience John 17:3, knowing God for ourselves and will know what Jesus said in John 16:26 is true that He will not pray the Father for us because the Father loves us Himself.

But if we have a different faith, a faith based on the human law system, the imperial law lie, then we might claim faith in Jesus to go to the Father in our behalf and plead to the Father not to hurt us, or to hide us from the Father, or to pay a legal penalty to the Father and if we have that kind of faith, we don't actually know God, we haven't had the spirit of fear removed, but continue to live in fear, particularly fear of God, and continue to run and hide from God like Adam did, only instead of trying to cover ourselves with fig leaves, we hide ourselves from God with our made up theologies.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The God of Reality: Separating Truth from Fiction Seminar: August 13-16 2026 Orlando, Florida—More information coming soon. First 500 get five free meals. Our outline of program topics:

1. Who Decides What's True?

How do we know what's actually true in a world full of competing voices? This session examines the foundation of truth—what authority can be trusted and how to discern reality from deception.

2. Did Life Happen by Chance ... or Design?

What does science really reveal about the origin of life? This session examines the evidence behind life's beginnings and what it suggests about our purpose, meaning, and design.

3. What Kind of Power Runs the Universe?

What kind of power sustains the universe at its foundational level? This session explores what reality reveals about worshipping a Creator whose power operates through truth and love rather than force—the quantum power upon which Newtonian power is built.

4. What If Sin Isn't What You've Been Told?

What if sin is something other than breaking rules? This session examines why God allowed sin to exist, how it began, and how being out of harmony with reality in our beliefs and actions reshapes the mind.

5. What Did God Really Do After Human Sin? (Part 1)

Were God's actions after sin acts of punishment—or something else? This session reexamines key moments after the fall to uncover what they reveal about God, salvation, and the nature of reality.

6. What Did God Really Do After Human Sin? (Part 2)

What does death reveal about God's response to sin? This session explores how death relates to God's mercy and what Christ's life and sacrifice accomplished in reality.

7. Spiritual Warfare: The Battle for Your Mind

How do truth and lies shape the direction of your life? This session examines how our thoughts get encoded within the substructure of brain changing the motivational energy that moves us to action and why truth and love are the powers that, in reality, bring healing.

8. Genesis: History... and What It Reveals About Reality

What does the book of Genesis reveal about the operating design of our reality? This session explores how God and the human mind intersect in the physical world.

9. Are We Misreading the Old Testament?

Why does God sometimes appear harsh or angry? This session examines how truth, love, and freedom help us better understand God's actions in the Old Testament.

10. The Bible: History... and How Reality Works

What kind of book is the Bible, really—and how should we relate to it? This session explores how Scripture records real events that reveal truth, conflict, and the principles that govern life.

11. Truth vs. Fiction

How can we tell the difference between truth and error with so much disinformation? This session examines key beliefs to help uncover what aligns with reality and what leads to deception.

12. Reality Restored

What does it mean to be fully restored and in harmony with God's design? This session brings everything together, showing how truth transforms our lives and prepares us for what lies ahead.

REMEDY APP:

Updated, many new features including the ability to listen to the audio right from the app!

AFRICA:

Healing a Broken Heart is now available in South Africa in both English and Afrikaans. You can access the Afrikaans version on our website under the Languages tab, or if you are in South Africa and would like print copies, email Jacques Van de Heever at southafrica@comeandreason.com.

Our first shipment of resources has arrived in Kenya, *Could It Be This Simple?* Wycliffe has been passionately sharing this end-time message about God with great success and Jacques van den Heever, our Come and Reason Ministries Director in South Africa has been able to produce and get him these resources. It is through the support of you our friends that he has been able to do this. If you are in Kenya or know someone there who would like this book, email kenya@comeandreason.com

Our South Africa Distribution Director, Jacques Van de Heever, has been translating many of our materials into Afrikaans and now has added Swahili. Reach him at southafrica@comeandreason.com.

Thomas Wansara, in Ethiopia, has been translating blogs and some of our printed and online publications into Amharic and is creating a new Facebook group, Come And Reason Ministries - Ethiopia. Reach him at ethiopia@comeandreason.com.

If you want to access these translated resources on our website, just click the Languages menu.

AUSTRALIA: Simon and Maani Harrison Direct Come and Reason in Australia and New Zealand and have a Facebook group in Australia and Come and Reason resources available there: You can email Simon at australia@comeandreason.com

ENGLAND: If you are interested in connecting with our team in England you can contact Michael Dragoyvich and his wife Billie Jordan at uk@comeandreason.com