

Day 2

Deeper Faith / Abiding in Christ

"The Lord would have all His sons and daughters happy, peaceful, and obedient. Through the exercise of faith, the believer comes into possession of these blessings. Through faith, every deficiency of character may be supplied, every defilement cleansed, every fault corrected, every excellence developed" (*The Acts of the Apostles*, p. 564).

"With men, this is impossible, but with God all things are possible" (Matthew 19:26).

"Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God" (Hebrews 12:2).

"For whatsoever is born of God overcomes the world: and this is the victory that overcomes the world, even our faith" (1 John 5:4).

"In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ" (1 Peter 1:6-7).

"The very time to exercise faith is when we feel destitute of the Spirit. When thick clouds of darkness seem to hover over the mind, then is the time to let living faith pierce the darkness and scatter the clouds. True faith rests on the promises contained in the word of God, and those only who obey that word can claim its glorious promises" (*Christian Experiences & Teachings*, 126).

"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" (Hebrews 11:6).

"Now the just shall live by faith: but if anyone draws back, my soul has no pleasure in him" (Hebrews 10:38).

"Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need" (Hebrews 4:16).

Intercession Focus – *Abiding in Christ:*

Pray for all God's people to learn to abide in Christ through:

- Continual communion with God
- Openness to receiving the Holy Spirit
- Unreserved surrender to God's love
- Clinging to Jesus in faith

- Receiving His strength and life
- Accepting His overcoming righteousness
- Bearing much fruit for God's glory
- Walking in continual obedience



Leader's Guide Day 2

Suggested Plan for Deeper Faith / Abiding in Christ

• Introduction - 5 Minutes:

- Remind people of general guidelines for united prayer as explained in United Prayer Guidelines (available on <u>www.revivalandreformation.org</u>).
- Introduce the day's prayer topic of deeper faith and abiding in Christ.
- Have each person select five intercession cards at random from the intercession box to pray over during the supplication time. Make sure they return these to the box at the end.

United Prayer Time

• Praise - 10 Minutes:

- Praise God for being the author and finisher of our faith. Use the scriptures on the theme sheet to guide your praises.
- Encourage people to share their answers to prayer as praises to God.
- Confession 5 Minutes:
 - Have people spend three minutes individually asking God to reveal to them what areas in their life are demonstrating a lack of faith in God.
 - Spend two minutes of corporate confession asking forgiveness for our sin of lack of faith.
- Supplication 30 Minutes:
 - Pray for greater faith. Especially claim God's promises listed on the theme sheet.
 - Claim the outpouring of the Holy Spirit promised in God's word.
 - Divide people into groups of twos or threes to pray for the individuals/situations listed on the five cards they chose from the box.
- Pray for all God's people to learn to abide in Christ through:
 - Continual communion with God
 - Openness to receiving the Holy Spirit
 - Unreserved surrender to God's love
 - Clinging to Jesus in faith
 - Receiving His strength and life
 - Accepting His overcoming righteousness
 - Bearing much fruit for God's glory
 - Walking in continual obedience
- Praise 5 Minutes:
 - Thank God for granting us a deeper faith and teaching us to abide in Him!

Suggested Songs to Use: Thy Word is a Lamp Unto My Feet; Tis so Sweet to Trust in Jesus (*SDA Hymnal* p. 524); It is Well with my Soul (*SDA Hymnal* p. 530); Sweet Hour of Prayer (*SDA Hymnal* p. 478); Great is Thy Faithfulness (*SDA Hymnal* p. 100); Trust and Obey (*SDA Hymnal* p. 590); All the Way (*SDA Hymnal* p. 516).

