## Return to Faithfulness

Pastor Roland 20/9/2020

In Revelation 19:11, we see that Jesus is faithful and true. Faithfulness is the nature of God and it is one of the fruits of the Spirit. Christians who are filled with the Holy Spirit will remain faithful their God, family, church, and friends. However, things are being redefined today, things that were false are not true. Commitment in the world is at an all-time low. It has affected the church as people have the supermarket mentality and go for the trends rather than being loyal to their local churches. They don’t understand the concepts of being a daughter or a son of the church, therefore, when trouble arises, they flee. Without being faithful to the local church, people will not be able to find their identities and destiny. Faithfulness is essential and without it, the world could not exist. Just like the sun, moon and earth faithfully follow their rotation patterns, traffic lights need to be faithful if not there would be many accidents, without faithfulness there could be no relationships.

## Q1. How would you define faithfulness?

**Biblical definition of faithfulness**

* Having faith, loyal, remaining true, constant, staunch, consistent, reliable, steadfast, resolute, firm in allegiance to a person or thing or to the oath or promise by which a tie was contracted
* Loyalty is faithfulness

**Faithfulness is Faith in Action**

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

**Faithfulness produces unity and blessings**

* + Psalms 133:1-3 Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious oil upon the head…For there the Lord commanded the blessing – Life forevermore.”
  + What is unity? Unity means we are faithful to one another

**The blessings of faithfulness**

* + Proverbs 28:20 “A faithful man will abound with blessings, but he who hastens to be rich will not go unpunished.”

**God rewards faithfulness**

* + 1 Samuel 26:23 “The Lord rewards every man for his righteousness and his faithfulness, for the Lord gave you into my hand today, and I would not put out my hand against the Lord’s anointed.”

**Your faithfulness will be tested**

* + Through conflict and offences (Paul and Barnabas)
  + Through disappointments (Judas)
  + Through delayed fulfilment of promises (Abraham)
  + Through persecution (Daniel and his friends)

## Q2. Have you been tested in any of these areas? What was the outcome and how does it help with to grow in faithfulness?

**We are judged by our faithfulness**

* + Matthew 25:23 “His Lord said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your Lord.’”
* Revelations 7:14
  + Those who are with God and chosen and faithful
  + We are to be chosen and faithful