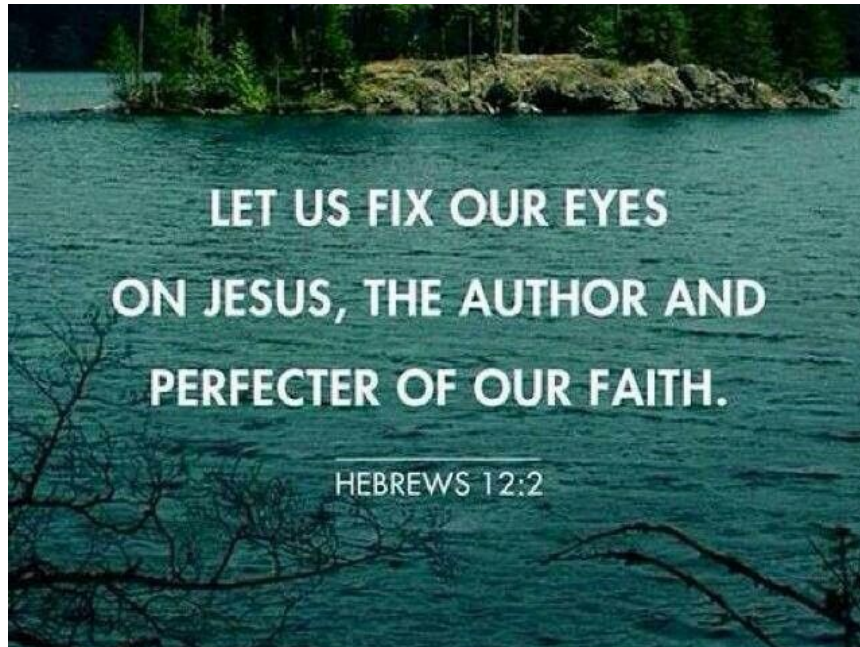

THE TRUTH HERALD

Fix Your Eyes on Jesus



1 - Fix your eyes on Jesus.

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race that God has set before us. We do this by *keeping our eyes on Jesus*, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith. Because of the joy awaiting Him, He endured the cross, disregarding its shame. Now He is seated in the place of honor beside God's throne." (Hebrews 12: 1-2, NLT)

To fix one's eyes on Jesus is to incline one's heart toward Him. "My son, give me your heart, And let your eyes observe my ways." (Proverbs 23: 26, NKJV). When our eyes are fixed on Jesus, His priorities become our priorities and we live our lives directed by His values and priorities. The Holy Spirit, who comes to live in our hearts when we receive Jesus Christ as our LORD and Savior, helps us to fix our eyes on Jesus (John 14: 15, 26). Several hundred years before Jesus came down to earth and the Holy Spirit came to dwell in God's children, David the psalmist - a man after God's own heart - prayed: "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me." (Psalm 51: 10, KJV). David was praying to re-incline his heart toward God, and knew he needed God's Spirit to be able to do so.

2 - Your eye is the lamp of your body.

"The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness!" (Matthew 6: 22-23, NKJV)

One can lose the light of one's eyes as David acknowledged in Psalm 38: 10b (NKJV): "As for the light of my eyes, it also has gone from me." Just as one can lose the light of one's eyes, one can also regain the light of one's eyes -- by focusing on God's Word: Jesus Christ. "The commandment of the LORD (i.e., God's Word) is pure, enlightening the eyes." (Psalm 19:8b, NKJV)

3 - Fixing your eyes on Jesus is fixing your eyes on God's Word.

"My son, give attention to my *words*; Incline your *ears* to my sayings. Do not let them depart from your *eyes*; Keep them in the midst of your *heart*; For they are life to those who find them, And health to all their flesh." (Proverbs 4: 20-22, NKJV). "My son, give me your *heart*, And let your *eyes* observe my ways." (Proverbs 23: 26). "Therefore you shall lay these words of mine in your *heart*, and bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your *eyes*." (Deuteronomy 11: 18, NKJV). We are being admonished not to let our eyes stray away from God's Word. This is how we fix our eyes on Him.

4 - Your eyes, ears and heart are closely linked, and where you fix them is crucially important.

"Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man the things that God hath prepared for those who love Him." (1 Corinthians 2: 9, NKJV). Fixing one's eyes on Jesus has as much to do with the eyes as with the ears and the heart. "For the hearts of the people have grown dull. Their ears are hard of hearing, And their eyes have closed, Lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, Lest they should understand with their hearts and turn, So that I should heal them." (Acts 28:27, Matthew 13:25, Isaiah 6:10, NKJV). The eyes and the ears are portals for God's Word to enter the heart. Who are you looking to? Who are you listening to? Who you look to and listen to determines the condition of your heart, and therefore the condition your life. Our eyes and ears do not operate in a vacuum. We must therefore be careful who we look to or listen to, because this determines what we take into our hearts, and out of our hearts flow the issues of life. "Keep your heart with all diligence, For out of it springs the issues of life." (Proverbs 4:23, NKJV). If you have received Jesus Christ as your LORD and Savior, the Holy Spirit now lives in you. (John 14: 15, 26). He will help you to fix your eyes on Jesus.

5 - Fixing your eyes on Jesus is seeking first the Kingdom of God.

"... Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you." (Matthew 6:33, NKJV). If we are seeking the Kingdom of God above all else, it means His priorities have become our priorities. Our eyes are fixed on Him. His promise to those who seek His Kingdom above all else is that He will give them everything they need.

6 - Your eyes and ears are indeed the eyes and ears of your heart, and your heart directs your life.

Fix your eyes on Jesus; incline your ears to His Word, and trust God to fill your heart and work in your life, for His glory!