A SHORT BIBLE STUDY

Putting Faith into Practice

Living It Out · Book 6



Trusting Christ through obedience and difficulty

Andrew Dominguez

Trinfinity Enterprises

Putting Faith into Practice

Trusting Christ through obedience and difficulty

Andrew Dominguez



Trinfinity Enterprises

Copyright 2026 by Andrew Dominguez.

I own the copyright to everything in this book. I freely allow anyone to read, copy, print, quote, share, and teach from it, and to hand out or post copies, at no cost, as long as the text is not changed and this notice stays with it.

Publishing this book, meaning releasing it as an edition of your own in print or electronic form, whether sold or given away, requires my written permission first. Requests go to andrew@trinfinityenterprises.com.

The full text can be read, printed and downloaded free at trinfinityenterprises.com.

Scripture quotations are taken from the Steadfast Literal Bible (SLB), with familiar English forms of personal names, copyright 2026 Andrew Dominguez. The complete SLB is free to read at trinfinityenterprises.com/slb.

Published by Trinfinity Enterprises.

A note before you begin. This book is written to teach the Bible and encourage faith. It shares my understanding of Scripture and is offered for study and spiritual growth. It is not counseling, medical, legal, or financial advice. If you are facing a crisis, a health problem, or a legal or money problem, please reach out to a qualified professional as well as your pastor and church family. To the fullest extent the law allows, Andrew Dominguez, Trinfinity Enterprises, and Andrew Dominguez's heirs, estate, successors, and assigns accept no liability for how this material is used.

Contents

Introduction.....5
1 What faith rests on.....5
2 Jesus in the storm.....6
3 Peter leaves the boat.....7
4 Faith that stays faithful.....8

A Note on the Bible Translation Used in This Book

My preferred Bible for personal study, teaching, and research is the Steadfast Literal Bible (SLB). I chose it because it is a word-for-word translation in today's language, built on the ancient Scripture sources: the Hebrew and Aramaic of the Old Testament and the Greek of the New Testament. I prepared the SLB myself, and the Scripture in this book is taken from it.

Where a literal phrase would mislead an English reader, the SLB gives the writer's meaning in plain words. Words added for sense are set in bold italics so you can see what is in the original and what is not.

The complete Steadfast Literal Bible is free to read, search, download, and print at trinfinityenterprises.com/slb. If you want to check a verse in its full setting or read the translation's preface and principles, that is the place to go.

Above all, my desire is not to promote one translation over another, but to faithfully teach the Word of God, encourage careful examination of the Scriptures, and help readers grow in their knowledge, understanding, and relationship with the Lord.

May every page of this book direct attention not to the translation itself, but to the truth of God's Word and the One whom it reveals.

Introduction

Faith becomes practical when trusting Christ changes the way I respond. Scripture gives us examples of people who believed, hesitated, obeyed, and needed help. I want to learn from those accounts without turning them into promises that every risk I choose must succeed. The Lord Himself is the object of our faith. His character gives us reason to trust Him.

Knowing what the Bible says and trusting Christ when life gets hard are two different things. I have lived both: seasons walking close to God and seasons when my own bad choices brought real trouble. I wrote this book for believers who want a faith that holds through obedience, work and hard trials.

1 What faith rests on

> *Now faith is **the** assurance of **things** hoped for, **the** conviction of things not seen.*
> **Hebrews 11:1 (SLB)**

Hebrews 11 (SLB) describes faith in relation to what is hoped for and what is not yet seen. The people named in that chapter responded to God in different circumstances. Some saw remarkable deliverance. Others endured suffering. Reading the whole chapter keeps me from thinking faith always ends in a win I can see.

Faith is not confidence in how strong my feelings are. It rests in God. I may feel unsure about the next step and still do what He has made clear. I may also feel

very sure of a plan that Scripture never required me to make. Strong feelings and faithful obedience are not always the same thing.

Romans 4 (SLB) points us to God's promise, received through faith. James 2 (SLB) pushes back on talk about faith that never turns into care or action. I want to keep the order right. We do not earn salvation by doing good works. Faith that is alive should affect what we do.

That makes obedience ordinary as well as serious. Telling the truth, keeping a commitment, and helping a person in need can all require trust. I do not need a dramatic setting before I can practice faith. I need a willingness to obey the Lord in the setting I already have.

At 16 I passed the California High School Proficiency Exam early and aced the Air Force tests. When they would not give me the computer job they had promised, I walked away, and it felt like my plan had fallen apart. Looking back, God was steering me toward a career, a family and a ministry I could never have planned. Our faith rests on a God who sees the whole picture.

2 Jesus in the storm

> *And He said to them, "Why are you so fearful? How **is it that** you do not have faith?"*
> **Mark 4:40 (SLB)**

Mark 4:35-41 (SLB) describes Jesus and His disciples crossing the sea when a fierce storm arises. The boat

is taking in water, and Jesus is asleep. The disciples wake Him with a question about whether He cares that they are perishing. Their fear is real, and the passage does not hide it.

Jesus rebukes the wind and speaks to the sea. The calm that follows shows His authority. The disciples then ask who He is, that even the wind and sea obey Him. Their need reaches beyond relief from the storm. They need to understand the One who is with them.

I should be careful with the application. This event does not promise that every believer will be protected from every physical harm. The same Scriptures call believers to endurance and describe suffering for Christ. What the account shows is Jesus' authority and the disciples' need to trust Him.

When I face a difficulty, fear can narrow my attention until the difficulty seems to be the whole story. I can bring that fear to the Lord. I can also remember what He has made known about Himself. Faith does not require denying that the storm is dangerous. It calls me to recognize that the storm is not greater than the Lord.

In the deepest hole of my life, I walked into my pastor's office carrying more shame than I could handle. I had made choices that hurt my marriage and the people closest to me. My pastor did not push me away. He listened and walked beside me as I found my way back to God. God often shows His presence in our storms through a believer who will not walk out on us.

3 Peter leaves the boat

> *But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take courage; I am **He**; do not be afraid."*
> **Matthew 14:27 (SLB)**

> *And immediately Jesus, having stretched out the hand, took hold of him, and says to him, "**You** of little faith, why did you doubt?"*
> **Matthew 14:31 (SLB)**

Matthew 14:22-33 (SLB) records a different event. Jesus comes to the disciples walking on the sea. They are afraid, and He speaks to them. Peter asks Jesus to command him to come on the water. Jesus says, "Come" (Matthew 14:29, SLB), and Peter responds.

The order matters. Peter is responding to Jesus, rather than inventing a dangerous act to demonstrate his own courage. I should not turn this account into an instruction to take every possible risk or assume that caution is always unbelief. Being faithful means listening to the Lord, not making up a dramatic moment.

When Peter sees the wind, he becomes afraid and begins to sink. He cries for help, and Jesus immediately takes hold of him. The account includes both Peter's response and his need for rescue. It gives me no reason to boast about being stronger than another believer who is struggling.

I want to keep my attention on Christ when circumstances compete for it. That may require returning to a clear command, seeking wise counsel, or admitting I have begun to act from fear. If I need

help, I should ask. Peter's cry points us to the Savior who can help, not to a trick for getting amazing results.

For five straight years I helped lead youth mission trips to Baja, Mexico. Crossing that border each year meant leaving familiar routines behind and trusting God with the trip. Obedience usually starts with one uncomfortable step. You never see what Christ can do on the water until you step out of the boat (Matthew 14:29).

4 Faith that stays faithful

So how should these passages shape the way we live? I may never face the same circumstances as the disciples on the sea, but I will face decisions that reveal what I trust. I can obey a clear instruction even when the result is not immediately comfortable.

This includes service that receives little recognition. It includes generosity that requires planning, patience with somebody who grows slowly, and honesty when an excuse would be easier. Most of the time, faithfulness is built one small choice at a time, not in one big moment.

I also need other believers. Someone else may help me tell a real duty from a needless risk. A mature friend can remind me of God's Word when my thoughts become crowded with fear. Taking that help is part of faith. It does not mean my faith has failed.

I want my life to show a growing trust in Jesus. When He calls me to act, I want to respond. When I fail, I

want to turn back toward Him. When I cannot understand the circumstances, I want to remain faithful to what He has made clear. The point is not to make my life look extraordinary. It is to live in a way that honors the One I am following.

I was baptized on October 19, 1995, and that same day I baptized my wife. Staying faithful since then has taken daily choices, and there were seasons, in 2000 and again in 2013, when I drifted. What kept me coming back was Scripture, confessing when I fell short and taking the next step. Faithfulness is getting back up and walking with Christ day after day.

Putting Faith into Practice

✦ ✦ ✦

Faith becomes real when trusting Christ changes the way I respond. Looking at Jesus in the storm and Peter stepping out of the boat, this book asks what our faith rests on and how it stays faithful when life gets hard.

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Hebrews 11:1 (SLB)

Book 6 of 10 in the collection Living It Out

Free to read, copy, print and share.

Trinfinity Enterprises
TrinfinityEnterprises.com

Scripture quotations are taken from the Steadfast Literal Bible (SLB), with familiar English forms of personal names, copyright 2026 Andrew Dominguez. The complete SLB is free to read at trinfinityenterprises.com/slb.