

May 24, 2026

KENNEWICK CHURCH OF CHRIST



Living by Faith Involves Action

Comparing the translations is sometimes of great value in understanding the force of what God's message involves. An illustration of this is to compare the two ways John 3:36 is brought into our language. The King James Version and the New King James version renders the words of Jesus in this way. "He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life."

Now compare this verse with almost every other translation and there is an amazing difference. In various ways they add another dimension to what Jesus said. "Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life." Take time to read the KJV and the NKJV in the first paragraph and then read the ESV in this paragraph. The first says he who does not believe and the second says does not obey.

The Greek does not simply state the opposite of belief by placing the words "not believe." It is a totally different word and indicates and emphasizes the persuasive action follows after faith. The opposite of faith is not simply the absence of faith, but the absence of action. The nature of true faith is taking persuasive action when walking by faith. The opposite of true faith is disobeying the message of the words of faith.

To see this difference look at the way faith is described in Hebrews chapter eleven. It was by faith that Abel offered; Enoch walked; Noah built; Abraham went out; Abraham dwelt; Abraham waited; Sarah received strength; Abraham offered; Isaac blessed; Jacob blessed and worshiped; Joseph gave instructions about his bones; Moses was hidden; Moses chose; Moses forsook; Moses kept the Passover by placing blood on his door; Israel walked through the Red Sea; Jericho fell; Rahab hid the spies—the list is endless! True faith is more than words it always involves action.

The application is obvious faith in our relationship with God. It is more than words—it is action. We are purified by faith (Acts 15:9); sanctified by faith (Acts 26:18); justified by faith (Rom. 5:1); have access by faith (Rom. 5:2); stand by faith (Rom. 11:20); walk by faith (2 Cor. 13:7); live by faith (Gal. 2:20)—this list is also almost endless. This paragraph emphasizes the rewards of faith. However, the blessing does not come by simply saying a sinner's prayer, but by the true definition of faith. True faith demands action! True faith demands obedience! True faith always involves more than words, it involves action!

Take time to reflect on your own salvation. Our relationship with Him is determined by our actions, not just by words. Does your life show true faith; if not it is not by faith! ~Dan Jenkins

Keep these Dates in Mind	Birthdays and Anniversaries	
05/03 Monthly Potluck 05/07 Ladies Class Luncheon 05/09 Men's Business Mtg. 05/11 Hand & Foot Get Together	Lynette Jones 5/4 Bill Lafferty 5/8 Jonni Marcotte 5/22 Kurtis Rau 5/26	
5th Sunday Singings	Bible Studies	
May 31 – Pendleton Aug 30 – Hermiston Nov 29 - Kennewick	Adult Bible Classes (Fellowship Hall) Sunday am (9:30a) – 2nd Timothy Wed pm (6:00p) – Amos	Ladies Class Ladies class - Classes begin again in September

For us to remember:

- **Pat Lindsay, Karen McBurney, Tami Pennington, Sandi Gray, Shannon Mendoza, Bill Lafferty, Linda Lafferty, Queca Woods, Paul Mays, Jonni Marcotte, Joe Marcotte, Freddie Garza** (Danny's cousin), **Lupe Mendoza, Jackson Ward** (Josh Mendoza's friend), **Doreen Martinez**
- **Jim Preston** has a lung infection that requires antibiotic infusions. The side effects are worse than expected. Keep Jim and Holly in your prayers.
- Teens if you are interested in going to camp this year, see Shannon Mendoza or Delina Woodward
- Next Congregational meeting is June 14th keep that date in mind

Date	Opening Prayer	Song Leader	Communion Thought (Devotional)	Lord's Supper	Closing Prayer
This week	H. Jones	C. Sullins	D. Mendoza	J. Danley K. Winstead	B. Lafferty
Next Week	J. Danley	D. Mendoza	C. Sullins	L. Moore K. Winstead	D. McLaughlin

Spiritual Growth: Add Knowledge

Faith gives us conviction, and moral courage gives us the determination to do what is right. But without knowledge, we would not know what is right. That is why Peter says to “add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge” (2 Pet. 1:5).

Knowledge, in this context, is not merely information—it is understanding God’s will. The Greek suggests a seeking, an inquiry, a growing awareness through study and experience. It is the kind of knowledge that directs life and shapes decisions.

God has always expected His people to know His will. Under the Old Covenant, Israel was commanded to teach God’s Word diligently (Deut. 6:6-9). Under the New Covenant, knowing God is essential to belonging to Him (Jer. 31:31-34). A lack of knowledge has always been spiritually dangerous. God said, “My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge” (Hos. 4:6). Zeal alone is not enough—Paul spoke of those who had zeal for God but not according to knowledge (Rom. 10:2).

That makes knowledge indispensable. Faith must be directed. Moral courage must be guided. Without knowledge, even sincere effort can be misdirected.

So how do we develop this knowledge? The source is clear: the Word of God. True knowledge of God and His will is found in Scripture. The New Testament reveals Christ and His will for our lives, while the Old Testament provides instruction, encouragement and examples (Rom. 15:4; 2 Tim. 3:16-17). If we want to grow, we must be people of the Book.

But knowledge requires true desire. Proverbs speaks of seeking wisdom as one would search for treasure (Prov. 2:3-6). We must value knowledge more than material gain and cultivate a deep love for instruction. That means making Bible study a priority—personally and with others—and never taking those opportunities lightly.

At the same time, knowledge carries a danger. Paul warns that “knowledge puffs up, but love edifies” (1 Cor. 8:1). Knowledge can lead to pride if it is not balanced with humility and love. It can also harm others if used carelessly—especially when we disregard the consciences of weaker brethren (1 Cor. 8:9-13). Therefore, knowledge must always be governed by love and expressed with meekness (Jas. 3:13).

When properly developed, knowledge strengthens faith and directs moral courage. It gives clarity to our convictions and confidence to our actions. It helps us to grow, to avoid error and to live in a way that pleases God.

Are we growing in knowledge? If not, we are vulnerable. But if we are, we are building a life that is stable, fruitful and firmly rooted in the truth.

~David Sproule

Wednesday Night Devotional

Date	Song leader	Devotional	Date	Song leader	Devotional
04/29	D. Mendoza	L. Moore	05/27	J. Mendoza	D. McLaughlin
05/06	J. Mendoza	J. Wilson	06/03	L. Moore	B. Lafferty
05/13	D. Mendoza	H. Jones	06/10	D. Mendoza	J. Mendoza
05/20	L. Moore	D. Mendoza	06/17	J. Mendoza	J. Danley

