

Add to Your Faith
A Faith Box Sermon
2Peter 1:5-9



Faith Box Reintroduction

Question? How are non-living, non-acting nouns made into living verbs?

-From the **Oxford Living Dictionary**:

“A rather common pattern is for a word to have two parts of speech.

In particular, many words function as both nouns and verbs.....

Technically, this very common process in English is known as ‘conversion’.

One particularly common form of conversion is nouns being used as verbs.”

This specific process is called ‘verbing’: converting a static or non-moving,

Non-acting entity into action,

-Whether that action is attitudinal, verbal or actually seen in our daily walk of life.

-These conversions, that are also nouns, are describing their life as verbalized by words and actions

When it comes to the noun Faith

-What do we call it when it also becomes a verb?

-We say: ‘believing’

-We could say we are ‘faithing’, which sounds somewhat awkward.

-But I like **Faithing** It directly takes off from the non-acting noun ‘faith’ to action: ‘faithing’

A conversion occurs when we go from ‘faith’ to ‘faithing’ or less awkwardly: ‘believing’

-The Greek **noun** for ‘faith’ is used 244 times, generally translated ‘faith’

-The Greek **verb** for ‘faith’ is used 248 times nearly the same as the ‘noun’ for faith

-The verb form is generally, but not always translated ‘Believe’, ‘Believed’, Believing etc.

-The numbers suggest a balanced life of knowing what we believe: ‘Our faith’ or Faith box

-And thinking, attituding, responding, doing, living our faith or ‘faithing’

James says it best when talking about converting a noun faith into a verb faithing: **James 2:17-18**

17 Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

18 But someone will say, “You have faith, and I have works.” Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

-That is Faithing

The antithesis to James is that incorrect faith will lead to incorrect Faithing

-What we believe will lead to how we act it out

-If our doctrine is incorrect it will some small or large way lead to bad faithing

-For example: Replacement theology has led to, among other things, anti-Semitism

-And to the allegorical method of hermeneutics to make the Replacement fit the Scriptures that refute it

In our list of Faith Box Words/Doctrines we have listed nearly 200 doctrinal words

-In our verses in 2Peter 1:5-7 there are Seven words/phrases we are commanded to add

-And with all diligence to our singular faith our Faith Box if you will

-So I did that. We added from verses 5-7: ‘virtue’, to virtue ‘knowledge’, to knowledge ‘self-control’

- to self-control, 'perseverance', to perseverance, 'godliness', to godliness, 'brotherly kindness'
- And to brotherly kindness 'love'
- Only 'love(s)' was on our list
- So being obedient I added the others to our Faith Box list (**show list**)
- All seven are nouns which means we are to be these things, not just be described by these things
- Which would be adjectives
- They are all in the feminine, why?
- Because we are the Church, Jesus Christ's church.
- Or as He says My Church
- Church is in the feminine because we collectively are the Bride of Christ
- We complete Him
- We more specifically are His body
- Ours is a Love relationship, not a legal one
- But engagement to Him is based on the legal grounds of the finished work of His cross
- He is just in justifying us in making us His bride, His body, His church

Back to our Addons

- Peter is not telling us to add to the requirements for salvation
- But add to our existing faith, or Faith Box if you will allow me
- Now many of these words (and they are all singular words in the Greek Text, but sometimes plural in English)
- Many of these words are probably already in their faith box mixed in among the other 200 or so doctrinal words
- But here they are joined together, linked together.
- How do you know John?
- Look at how Peter links them as a seven fold unit:
- 5 **But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, 6 to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, 7 to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love.**
- Notice how he repeats each as he adds another
- This is deliberate
- These are linked together and in a particular order

Let also Add....

- Though many or all of these doctrinal nouns may have been in their Faith Box
- They were not linked together like this, and not in this order
- They were not at the forefront of their thought life
- They needed to be either added or surfaced
- They needed to be linked sequentially

The Greek word 'add' is used 5 times in the NT

- Translated 'nourished' once and 'supply' the other three times
- The other four usages are nourishment and supplies that the Lord gives us to lead an abundant life
- Here we are to diligently add what we need

So why did he tell them to make these adds to their Faith Box?

- Peter tells us, v. 5 starts out: **But also for this very reason, add to your faith**
- What very reason?
- Let's back up and look at vs. 3-4

3 as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue,

4 by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

-Verse 5 again starts out after this **But also for this very reason, add to your faith**

-Something was happening with these scattered Jewish Christians that necessitated these add-ons

-When you look at vs. 3-4 you see the words **His divine power has given to us all things**

-Not just to get to Heaven but for here and now

-Peter goes on in vs. 3-4 **all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue,**

4 by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

-What more could we need than what these verses give to us?

-Yet he commands thru the 'word' add... **But also add**

Not just add, not casually but do so ...

-.....**giving all diligence, add to your faith**

-The Greek word for diligence is used 12 times in the NT

-It means 'bring every effort to'

-It means to do so with haste

-**But also for this very reason, giving all diligence** (do so with every effort, with haste), **add to your faith**

Something is going on that gives Peter a sense of urgency

-Urging them to add ...

Perhaps the Verses that follow will give us some further clues

First Peter gives a general positive statements about the fruit of this effort

v.8 For if these things are yours and **abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

-Abound, neither barren nor unfruitful suggest life, activity

-In the Faith Box world they suggesting that Faith as a noun must be converted to a verb

-Must be actionable

-We don't have 200 Doctrines in our Faith Box so that we can say to visitors look at my impressive library

-No these packets of seeds, just add water and plant them into the soil of your heart and attend to their growth

-**if these things are yours and **abound**, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ**

-They must be ours, we must possess them, they must mentally visible

-Then they must abound...multiply.. spread as if they are going to take over

-It is used graphicly in **2 Corinthians 4:15**

15 For all things are for your sakes, that grace, 'having spread through the many', may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God.

-That's the picture, 'having spread thru'

-when that happens we will be neither barren nor unfruitful regarding our experiential knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

-Our Faith Box Doctrines become '**Chia Doctrines**': Just add the water of the H.S. and watch them grow.

-**Show Chia Pet Commercial**.... here is the link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tzY7qQFij_M

-Be ready to pause playback as I instruct from the stage

Then he states what will happen if they do not diligently add these things

v.9 For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins.

Sometimes We Have to....

Subtract Before We Add to Our Faith

In **Colossians 3:11** Paul speaks positionally and why we can put off before we put on

11 In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ,

12 buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.

-The cross has not only judged our flesh but has thru His resurrection given us power over it

-Then we come to some specifics in **Colossians 3:8**

8 But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth.

9 Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds,

-Our Spiritual Nature Abhors a Vacuum

-So when we put off we must on...

Colossians 3:12-13

12 Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, **put on** (might suggest 'add') tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; (all nouns in the feminine)

13 bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do.

Sometimes Our Faith Box Includes Infected Doctrines

-Sometimes we hang on to things we are now to put off

-We sometimes doctrinally rationalize what we are to put off

-Because we have received and accepted false teaching

-Do we realize that the put offs of v.8 you can rationalize thru Biblical False Teaching?

-Again **Col. 3:8** But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth.

-Do not doubt me you can do it or allow it to be done to you!

-But if you do you will be in v. 9 of 2Peter 1

-Again v.9 For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins.

-That is a bad state to be in

Dave will be teaching 2Peter soon

-So I'm not going into too much depth here

-Got to leave him something to do!!!

-But 2 Peter chapter 2 on is about False Teachers who would desire nothing than that you follow them

-Rather than the teaching of a Peter who was an eyewitness of Jesus and received all that the Father had

-Given Jesus to say and do...

-We must shed the chaff from the wheat of our Faith Box doctrines

-Then add to our faith in order that we may v. 8 Christians

-Again v.8 **For if these things are yours and abundant, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the experiential knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

Lord Jesus Christ are three words they will attack the most!

-These three words used in this order appear 85 times in the NT, but never in the Gospels

-This is a post conquered death, resurrection and ascension title: Lord Jesus Christ

-Again I leave this with Dave to unfold

-I'll give you a hint as to what False Teachers attack the most.

-Unravel, discredit anyone of these august words in His title

-and what they mean and their doctrinal implications

-And you will be taught all kinds of Doctrinal rationalization of your flesh-behavior

The other thing they will attack is this: Has God Said?

-Is the Bible the Word of God or Man?

-Creating doubt can lead to your believing that you can live like your flesh and the world wants you to.

Move Existing Faith Boxes in Front of Your Windshield

-Often Adding Means Moving What Is Already in our Faith Box to the Front of the Room

-It feels like adding because you haven't looked at this box for a long time

-That is why we go thru the Bible: Book by Book, chapter by chapter, verse by verse

-All Faith boxes on our list plus others will be brought before our windshield as we drive thru life

We sometimes have to pull together some of the Doctrinal Nouns of our Faith Box Ourselves

Case #1 You have Uncertainty Regarding Forgiveness... what Faith Box words do I link together and study?

Circle: Atonement, Redemption, Forgiveness, Assurance

Case #2 I still get tempted? Am I right with God?

Circle: Temptation, then Sin, then Confession then Atonement

Case #3 I'm living with my fiancé, we're going to get married anyway and we love each other?

Circle: Marriage, sex and sexuality, confession, redemption, forgiveness

Case #4 Am I right in being anti-Semitic as some churches teach?

Circle: Israel, Doctrine of, Cross, Dispensations, Second Coming

What if My Faith Box is new and small and I have questions?

-Get into our Discipleship program

-Ask questions of those who have been walking with Jesus for a while

-Learn how to use BLB. We have a tutorial on line. You can look things up that in the Bible.

-Look up what specifically is troubling you on Got Questions?.org



Faith Box Doctrines

Adam
 Adoption
 Advocate
 Ages
 Antichrist
 Angels
 Apostasy
 Ascension
 Assurance
 Atonement
 Babylon
 Baptisms
 Bible Authors
 Blasphemy
 Blessing
 Body, Soul, Spirit
 Bread
 Bride
Brotherly-kindness
 Buried
 Calling
 Canon
 Carnality
 Chastisement
 Children
 Christian
 Christophany
 Church
 Church Leadership
 Cleansing
 Commandments
 Confession
 Conscience
 Conviction
 Covenants
 Creation
 Cross
 Curse
 Darkness
 Day of the Lord
 Demonology
 Destiny, Righteous
 Destiny, Unrighteous
 Disciples
 Discipleship
 Discipline, Church
 Dispensations
 Dispersion of Israel

Elders (see church leadership)
 Election
 Enemies
 Eschatology
 Eternal Security
 Eternity/Everlasting
 Evangelism/Evangelist
 Faith
 Faith & Works
 Fall
 Family
 Fatherhood of God
 Feasts of Israel
 Firstfruits
 Flesh (Sin Nature)
 Foreknowledge
 Forgiveness, Forgiving
 Genealogy
 Gentiles (Nations)
 Gentile Times
 Gifts of the Spirit
 Glory
 God
Godliness
 Gospel(s)
 Government(s)
 Grace
 Great Commission
 Guilt
 Healing
 Heart
 Heaven
 Hell
 Helpmate
 Hermeneutics
 Holiness
 Hope
 Humility
 Hypostatic Union
 Immortality
 Imputation
 Inheritance
 Inerrancy
 Innocence
 Inspiration
 Intercession
 Interpretation
 Israel, Doctrine of
 Israel vs. the Church
 Jehovah (YHWH)
 Jesus Christ
 Jerusalem
 Justice
 Justification
 King
 Kingdom Age
 Kingdom of God
 Kingdom of Heaven
Knowledge

Laws of Grace
 Laws of Moses
 Life and Death
 Lying or Bearing False Witness
 Lord
 Lord's Supper
 Love(s)
 Man (Anthropology)
 Manna
 Marriage
 Mediation
 Millennium
 Missions
 Music
 Mysteries
 Names of God
 Occult
 Offerings of the OT
 Perfection
 Persecution
Perseverance
 Power
 Prayer
 Praise
 Predestination
 Procession
 Prophecy
 Propitiation
 Providence
 Race
 Rapture
 Reconciliation
 Redemption
 Regeneration
 Repentance
 Resurrection
 Resurrection Body
 Revelation
 Rewards
 Rock
 Sabbath
 Sabbath vs. Sunday
 Sacrifices
 Saints
 Salvation
 Sanctification
 Satan
 Sealing
 Second Coming
Self-control
 Service and Serving
 Sex and Sexuality
 Sin
 Sonship
 Sovereignities
 Spirituality
 Spirit, Holy
 Spirituals
 Standing and State

Stewardship
 Submissions
 Substitution
 Suffering
 Supplication
 Temptation
 Testing(s)
 Throne
 Tithes and Offerings
 Tongues
 Transfiguration
 Tribulation
 Trinity
 Types
Virtue
 War
 Will
 Will of God
 Woman
 Work(ing)
 Works
 World
 Zion