

to be active in the fellowship of other believers. It is one of the means whereby our faith is strengthened through seeing the working of God and receiving the corporate strength of a body of ones having common faith.

3. Conclusion

Certainly faith is a gift from God. When we speak of strengthening it we have in mind the concept of making it more sure and useful to us. Learning to be more obedient and more faithful is the very heart of faith. If one finds one's willingness to trust God is less than useful, the right process is to strengthen faith. We may pray about it, consult about it and read books that reassure us. But ultimately our memory of God's faithfulness, our recognition of His work about us and our support from other believers will most assuredly strengthen and encourage us.

D. WHAT DOES FAITH PRODUCE?

Luke 5:18-20;
7:1-10; 19:1-10

1. Introductory notes

When we speak of the produce of faith in our lives we are talking about what it shows or causes to become apparent in us. We cannot reduce faith to a gardening principle, of course, nor can we put it on a profit and loss basis. But it would be remarkable if something with the force and Divine power of faith did not make marked changes in us and in the character of our lives. It is true that there may be some subjective judgments in this regard and probably anything faith produces it does so in conjunction with other spiritual forces. But it is still a necessary point in