## 20240630 – Confident Faith (Eric)

- 1. What I believe (my faith) must answer 3 basic questions:
  - a. Where did we come from and who we are?
  - b. What has gone wrong with the world?
  - c. What can we do to fix it?
- 2. What value does faith have?
  - a. Insurance? Hope for heaven?
  - b. Real, practical value for life now?
- 3. How my faith developed
  - a. I saw it modelled
  - b. Work of the Holy Spirit (Philippians 2:13)
  - c. Intentional pursuit
- 4. Decisions a "work in process"
  - a. **Philippians 3:12** I don't mean to say that I have already achieved these things or that I have already reached perfection. **But I press on** to possess that perfection for which Christ Jesus first possessed me.
- 5. FAITH or TRUST?
  - a. **Proverbs 3:5 (NLT) 5 Trust in the Lord** with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding.
  - b. **Hebrews 11:1** "Faith shows the reality of what we hope for; it is the evidence of things we cannot see"
  - c. TRUST demonstrates the reality of FAITH
- 6. WHO or WHAT am I trusting in, that's trust-WORTHY?
  - a. 2 Kings 18:19 (NLT) 19 Then the Assyrian king's chief of staff told them to give this message to Hezekiah: "This is what the great king of Assyria says: What are you trusting in that makes you so confident?
  - b. How does faith in an invisible, unseen God have any value?
- 7. **Habakkuk 3:16–19 (NLT) 16** I trembled inside when I heard this; my lips quivered with fear. My legs gave way beneath me, and I shook in terror. ... **17** Even though the fig trees have no blossoms, and there are no grapes on the vines; even though the olive crop fails, and the fields lie empty and barren; even though the flocks die in the fields, and the cattle barns are empty, **18** yet I will rejoice in the Lord! I will be joyful in the God of my salvation! **19** The Sovereign Lord is my strength! He makes me as surefooted as a deer, able to tread upon the heights.
- 8. WHY? ... and the question that REALLY matters?
  - a. WILL I trust God when my world has fallen apart?
  - b. Psalm 34:8 (NLT) 8 Taste and see that the Lord is good. Oh, the joys of those who take refuge in him!
  - c. 1 Peter 5:7 (NLT) 7 Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you.
- 9. **Philippians 4:11–13 (NLT) 11** Not that I was ever in need, for I have learned how to be content with whatever I have. **12** I know how to live on almost nothing or with everything. I have learned the secret of living in every situation, whether it is with a full stomach or empty, with plenty or little. **13** For I can do everything through Christ, **who gives me strength**.
- 10. Endings .. and new beginnings
  - a. **Proverbs 18:22 (NLT)** The man who finds a wife finds a treasure, and he receives favor from the Lord.
- 11. 9.Is there any practical value to faith in THIS life?
  - a. We GET to choose ... that choice matters a LOT!!
- 12. **Who** are you trusting in that makes you so confident (to face an unknown future?)
- 13. Jeremiah 17:7 (NLT) "But blessed are those who trust in the Lord and have made the Lord their hope and confidence.