

FUEL Week Day 4

You Must Have Faith

Romans 12:3

Eric Himes

Imagine the day you were born. Your parents proudly staring at you, your mother cradling you, crying and whispering, “I can’t believe how much faith you have!” This may sound ridiculous, that’s because it is ridiculous. Unlike beauty or talent, faith is not natural. You are not born with it and once you accept Christ, you can either gain or lose faith.

In today’s scripture, Paul warns that we should think of ourselves “with sober judgment.” This instruction is not an excuse for low self-esteem. It does not mean we should be overly critical or look down upon ourselves, for doing so would miss the point. Paul’s warning has nothing to do with how you judge yourself on a superficial level; he commands us to judge ourselves only by a spiritual standard.

We must think of ourselves according to the amount of faith stored within us. Where the human perception of worth is found in the concept of “self” (or in talents, looks or abilities), the spiritual standard is found in denying your “self” and finding worth in Christ. Paul is piercing the human tendency of pride and judgment and shifting the perception from self-centered to Christ-centered.

How much faith do you have? This is a hard question to ask but a surprisingly easy question to answer. How well do you know the Lord? How devoted are you to following Him? Do you trust the path God wants you to follow? Will you stand up for Christ, for the redemption of the world through the message of the Cross? These are

important questions; they help us examine our faith and force us to humble ourselves. As your faith grows, people will notice. They may even proclaim, “I can’t believe how much faith you have!”