

Echo Summer Series: Rediscover

Echo Church | Week 29 | July 20, 2025, | Rich Saunders Jr. |

“Rediscover Your Faith”

Romans 10:14-17 (NKJV)

14 How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?

15 And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, who bring glad tidings of good things!” 16 But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, “LORD, who has believed our report?”

17 So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Introduction

Every week since we have started this series, I have pondered the same question regardless of the topic...” How did we get here?” This week is no different. How is it that the church, the place we go every week, the place that is supposed to be filled with believers. Believers that have had to endure battles that many people didn’t make it out of, believers that come to church and praise and worship God. How is it that we have lost our Faith? Of all the things, I would think that we would at the very least we would have faith.

Perhaps what we have is fabricated faith.

What is fabricated faith?

"Fabricated faith fills the pews but empties the soul—when the church preaches flesh over the Word, we trade healing for hype and leave hearts starving for the truth that sets them free."

Fabricated is to invent or concoct (something), typically with deceitful intent.

So how have we gotten to this moment? We have been deceived by what we have been hearing because the word that we have heard has been concocted to excite you and keep you in a place of longing for a quick fix that keeps you coming back for another fix and never getting you to a place of elevation.

We’ve turned faith into currency for material gain, leaving a generation disillusioned when their 'transactions' fail. Now, they doubt God, not because He isn’t faithful, but because what they proclaimed was never His Word to begin with.

We have named it and claimed it, declared it, and decreed it and my question is **WHAT DID THE WORD SAY?**

There is no Faith if there is no Word.

Point 1: Faith Comes by Hearing, Not by Feeling

Scriptural Basis: Romans 10:17 - "So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

Historical Context: In Paul's time, the Word was proclaimed in a culture hostile to the Gospel. Faith wasn't about convenience; it was about commitment.

Application: Today, we've replaced hearing the Word with chasing emotional experiences. We want sermons that entertain, not ones that edify.

Challenge: Rediscover the discipline of hearing the Word—not just for inspiration, but for instruction. Faith grows when we submit to the truth, not when we chase a "feel-good" moment.

Point 2: The Word Cuts Before It Comforts

Scriptural Basis: Hebrews 4:12 - "For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword..."

Historical Context: The early church understood that the Word was a sword—it cut through cultural norms, personal sin, and societal expectations.

Application: We've sanitized the Word to make it palatable, but the Word is meant to convict us of sin and challenge our complacency.

Challenge: Stop seeking a faith that only comforts. Embrace the cutting power of the Word—it's the first step to real change.

Point 3: Faith That Pleases God Forsakes the Flesh

Scriptural Basis:

Romans 8:8 - "So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God."

Hebrews 11:6 - "But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him."

Historical Context: Paul's audience faced persecution for forsaking the flesh and living by the Spirit. Their faith wasn't about material gain but about spiritual growth and obedience to God. The writer of Hebrews reminds us that faith is the foundation of pleasing God—it requires trust, surrender, and diligent pursuit of Him.

Application: Modern faith often equates blessings with material success, but true faith is about forsaking the flesh and living in obedience to God. Hebrews 11:6 reminds us that faith is not optional—it's essential. Without it, we cannot please God, no matter how "good" our lives may look on the outside.

Challenge: Ask yourself: Is your faith pleasing God or pleasing your flesh? Rediscover a faith that prioritizes holiness over happiness, and diligently seek Him with a heart of surrender.

Point 4: The Word Changes Lives, Not Lifestyles

Scriptural Basis: 2 Corinthians 5:17 - "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new."

Historical Context: The early church grew because lives were transformed. People turned from sin, not just to a new lifestyle but to a new identity in Christ.

Application: We've reduced faith to lifestyle changes—better jobs, bigger houses, and social status. But the true measure of faith is the number of lives transformed by the Gospel.

Challenge: Rediscover a faith that changes hearts, not just habits. Let the Word transform you from the inside out.

Conclusion: It's Not the Word, It's Us

Reiterate the main point: The Word hasn't lost its power; we've lost our posture. We've traded a faith that transforms for a faith that entertains.

Call to Action:

Return to the Word—read it, hear it, and let it cut where it needs to.

Repent of a fraudulent faith that seeks comfort over conviction.

Recommit to a faith that pleases God, forsakes the flesh, and transforms lives.

Closing Encouragement: The Word still works. Faith still comes by hearing. Lives can still be changed. But it starts with us rediscovering our faith.