

# Faith vs Belief

Or

*Faithing vs Believing*

# English 101

---

- Noun: a person, place or thing
- Verb: expresses an act, occurrence or mode of being

# The Noun “Love”

---

An emotion felt toward someone or something

Examples:

- *Love is a dangerous thing.*
- *There are many kinds of love.*
- *Love has a language all its own.*

# The Verb “Love”

---

Doing the action of the noun "love"

Examples:

- *I love you.*
- *Michael loves his new bike.*
- *Jesus loves me, this I know.*

# Other Examples

---

## Noun

- Creation
- Work
- Drive
- Belief
- Faith

## Verb

- Create
- Work
- Drive
- Believe
- ??????

# Greek for “Faith”

---

- In Greek, the noun means: assurance, conviction, trust
- In Greek, the verb means: to trust in, to commit to, to place confidence in

# English Nouns – Belief and Faith

## Two Different Words

---

- According to Webster, in English, *belief* “may or may not imply certitude”
- According to Webster, in English, *faith* “almost always implies certitude even where there is no evidence or proof”

---

**Faith and Belief  
are NOT  
equivalent terms**



# English Verbs – Believe and ??????

## The Missing Word

---

- According to Webster, in English, *believe* means “to accept as true, genuine, or real” or “to hold an opinion” (syn – think)
- There is no English verb which means the same as the Greek verb *pisteuo*. This Greek verb is usually translated as “believe”, but **the English verb “believe” does not carry the concept of conviction, trust or certitude**

# The Problem

---

- Greek has a noun for faith (pistis) and also a verb for faith (pisteuo)
- English has a noun for “faith”, but no verb for “faith”

# An Example

---



# ABC's of Faith

---

- Action

based on

- Belief

and sustained by

- Confidence

in its

- Source

# Summary

---

- The word *Faith* includes an element of certainty, trust or commitment that is absent from the word *Belief*
- *Believe* is the verb form of *Belief* and in English does not normally contain those elements of certainty, trust, or commitment in our understanding
- Because *Believe* is the verb form of *Belief*, it is very confusing when we see it also used as the verb form for *Faith*.

# Conclusion

---

**The verb form of Faith which we see translated in our Bibles as the word Believe, actually is an Action which contains the elements of trust, certainty, and commitment**