

On Target Faith, part 2

1 Timothy 1:5, 18-19

The Target of our Faith is the love of God in Christ Jesus.

“Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.”—Mark 15:13

“But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”
—Romans 5:8

The goal of this command is love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.
—1 Timothy 1:5

1. Pure Heart

Pure means free from every mixture of what is false and insincere.

John Wesley spoke of Christian perfection:

- Perfected in Love.
- Perfect in desire and motive.
- Not always perfect in performance.

2. Good Conscience

Good simply means pleasant, agreeable, and happy, but in a higher sense good means excellent, distinguished, upright, and honorable.

Conscience is that part of the soul, mind, person that distinguishes between good and bad.

Conscience must be trained, converted by the Holy Spirit through Daily repentance.

Daily repentance requires:

- Daily immersion in the scriptures.
- A continual life of prayer.
- Conferencing with other Christians.

3. Sincere Faith

Faith means more than mental belief.

Trust—believing in difficult days though you cannot see.

Rely on—depending upon, resting fully on God’s promises.

Adhere to Christ’s Teaching—obeying.

Sincere means not being a hypocrite

The New Testaments connects sincere to:

- Love 3 times, (Rom. 12:9, 2 Cor. 6:6, 1 Peter 1:22)
- **Faith and Love once**, (1 Tim. 1:5)
- Faith once, and (2 Tim. 1:5)
- Wisdom once. (James 3:17)

We often say, “Seeing is believing.”

In the Kingdom of God and Faith, Believing is seeing.

Faith is often described as confessing with one’s mouth,

In the Kingdom of God and Faith, believing is doing what you profess.

Memory Verse:

The goal of this command is love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.

—1 Timothy 1:5