

Equipped to Believe: Making the Impossible Possible Mark 9:23 (NKJV)

Many people say they "believe in God," but what does that really mean? The Bible describes belief as more than intellectual agreement—it's a trust that changes everything.

"The job description of a believer is to believe." – Pastor Billy Johnson

FIVE COMPONENTS THAT MAKE SOMEONE BELIEVABLE

In everyday life, belief in someone else is built on several key components:

Credibility (Trustworthiness & Integrity) – A person is more likely to be believed if they have a consistent track record of honesty and reliability. If someone has a history of keeping their word, people naturally trust them.

Evidence (Proof & Actions Matching Words) – People believe what they can see and verify. If someone's actions align with their words, it reinforces their credibility. As the saying goes, "*Actions speak louder than words.*"

Consistency (Reliability Over Time) – Trust is built over time through consistent behavior. If someone is dependable in small things, they are more likely to be believed in bigger matters.

Relational Connection (Personal Experience & Emotional Bond) – People are more likely to believe someone they know personally or have a strong relationship with. Emotional connection and shared experiences create trust.

Reputation (What Others Say About Them) – The opinions and testimonies of others can influence belief. If multiple trustworthy sources vouch for a person's honesty, it strengthens their believability.

BELIEF IN GOD IS BASED ON THE SAME COMPONENTS:

Credibility (Trustworthiness & Integrity) - Jesus' Divine Authority

God has NEVER lied.

Evidence (Proof & Actions Matching Words) - Jesus' Miracles & Resurrection

God's actions give proof that He is credible.

Consistency (Reliability Over Time) - God's Faithfulness

God is so faithful that He can always be depended on.

Relational Connection (Personal Experience & Emotional Bond) - Knowing Jesus Personally

When we experience Christ's love and presence, our faith deepens.

Reputation (What Others Say About Them) - Testimony of Witnesses

Believers know what He can do.

What Does it Mean to Believe?

Belief Is More Than Knowledge (James 2:19)

Knowing ABOUT GOD is not the same as TRUSTING IN HIM.

Belief Requires Trust (Proverbs 3:5-6)

⁵Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding;

⁶In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.

Faith Means Relying On God Even When We Don't Understand.

For example, a child trusting their parent to catch them when they jump.

Belief Leads to Action (Genesis 12:1-4 & Hebrews 11:8-10)

Abraham left his home because he trusted God's promise (Genesis 12:1-4).

"Faith that doesn't change how we live is not real faith." Pastor Billy Johnson