



Saved by faith not by force

“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is a gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.” Ephesians 2:8

In jiu-jitsu we rely on technique, not force. We learn we can escape a wrist hold simply by applying a technique to break the weakest part of the grip (the finger and thumb). And in contrast, the more we force a situation (the more we pull) the more difficult the escape may become.

We cannot force our way into heaven. We cannot earn salvation. Trying harder does not get us any closer. We fall short in every attempt.

All religions tell us we must DO something to earn the affection of God. But Jesus turned the world upside down when he said, “IT IS FINISHED.” His life, death on the cross and resurrection declares ... The work is DONE.

You are not required to work for his affection. He already loves you. He has loved you from the beginning of time. He loved you when he formed you in your mother’s womb. He loves you today, right now. He loves you tomorrow and until the end of time. Jesus loves you.

“For God so loved the world (put your name here), that he gave his only Son (JESUS), that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.” John 3:16

Make a list of the gifts given to you in these two passages:

- He gives faith. “So faith comes by hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.” Romans 10:17
- He gives Jesus.
- He gives eternal life.

Thank God for the gifts he promises ... for you!

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