Firm Foundations

6) Faith

'I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith."" (Rom.1:16-17)

1) Faith is the partner of grace

'Jesus answered and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent" (John 6:29)

'We have access by faith into this grace in which we stand' (Rom.5:2)

'Are you so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are you now being made perfect by the flesh?'

(Gal.3:3)

2) Christ is the prime focus of our faith

'But the Scripture has confined all under sin, that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe. 23 But before faith came, we were kept under guard by the law, kept for the faith which would afterward be revealed' (Gal.3:22-23)

'You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me. But you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life' (John 5:39-40)

'For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he wrote about Me. But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe My words?'

(John 5:46-47)

"...to you who believe, He is precious..." (1 Pet.2:7)

3) Thanksgiving is the language of faith

'Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name'

(Heb.13:15)

'And Jesus took the loaves, and when He had given thanks He distributed them to the disciples, and the disciples to those sitting down; and likewise of the fish, as much as they wanted' (John 6:11)

'...other boats came from Tiberias, near the place where they ate bread after the Lord had given thanks...

(John 6:23)

'Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead man was lying. And Jesus lifted upHis eyes and said, "Father, I thank You that You have heard Me" (John 11:41)

'In everything give thanks' (1 Thes.5:18)

'He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also <u>freely</u> give us all things?'

(Rom.8:32)

'As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving' (Col.2:6-7)

Therefore, we are to offer 'supplications with thanksgivings'

(Phil.4:6)

and

'continue earnestly in prayer,
being vigilant in it with
thanksgiving'
(Col.4:2)