

# FAITH

## ACCORDING TO HEBREWS

The Book of Hebrews illustrates how faith is imperative to the Christian walk. Here are a few ways it encourages us to trust Christ with each step.

### WHAT IS FAITH?

Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. (11:1).

### WHY IS FAITH IMPORTANT?

Without faith it is impossible to please God. (11:6)

### WHAT DOES FAITH BELIEVE?

God rewards those who diligently seek Him (11:6).

### WHAT DOES FAITH LOOK LIKE IN A PERSON'S LIFE?

- Abel offered a costly sacrifice (11:4).
- Enoch lived in a way that pleased God (11:5).
- Noah obeyed divine warnings and built a giant ark (11:7).
- Abraham left his homeland at God's calling and went out, not knowing where he was going (11:8).
- Sarah bore Isaac in her old age (11:11).
- Abraham was willing to offer up Isaac, his only son, trusting that God was able to raise him up (11:17–19).
- Isaac blessed his sons and exhorted them to obey the covenant (11:20).
- Jacob likewise reminded his sons of God's promises (11:21).
- Joseph expressed his confidence that God would bring the Israelites out of Egypt (11:22).
- Moses' parents refused to carry out the commands of Pharaoh to kill their child (11:23).
- Moses turned his back on the passing pleasures of sin and sided with the downtrodden children of Israel, leading them out of Egypt and obediently carrying out the difficult commands of God (11:24–29).
- The Israelites, led by Joshua, trusted God to give them victory over the city of Jericho (11:30).
- Rahab believed in the power of God and helped the Israelite spies (11:31).
- Many other Old Testament people of faith trusted God for power and victory and refused to compromise their faith in God, even in the midst of life-threatening circumstances (11:32–38).

### WHAT HAPPENS TO THE FAITHFUL?

- Some died without having received the promises (11:13).
- Some have to find consolation in the truth that they will not realize the full blessings of God until they enter heaven (11:14–16).
- Some experience miraculous deliverance (11:33–35).
- Others, despite their implicit trust in God, experience torture, mockings, scourgings, imprisonment, stonings, destitution, affliction, and torment (11:35–38).

### WHAT IS THE VALUE OF THE FAITHFUL?

They are those of whom the world is not worthy (11:38).

### HOW SHOULD FAITH AFFECT US?

We should be motivated to lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and . . . run with endurance the race that is set before us (12:1).

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